

# Public Libraries

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## Emotional Poise in War Time\*

How the libraries can help the public  
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hospital, Waverly, Mass.

Emotional poise implies controlled, not suppressed emotions. Uncontrolled emotion is destructive, because it wrecks nerve-force and impairs one's judgment and makes one a menace to society; but controlled, guided emotion is constructive; it keeps the soul alive; it is inspiration; without it there would be no great deeds, no great songs.

In these days of preventive medicine, mental hygiene is beginning to play a conspicuous part. While we do not know the causes of certain kinds of insanity, we do know that the person of ill-balanced temperament, uncontrolled by either himself or others, self-centered and introspective, is less able to stand any stress of emotion or work and is much more liable to nervous or mental breakdown than the person taught from childhood to think clearly, to be quick in sympathy, and to control himself. We know, too, that the "one-idea'd man," whose mind runs in a groove and whose life settles into a rut—"the man with a single-track mind"—is more likely to go to pieces in middle life than he who has kept all sides of his mind alive and alert; who has many interests outside his business or profession; who is thoroughly human, not a mere business machine.

Now there is no doubt that this war, with all its attendant horrors too great for mortal mind to grasp in their entirety, has been responsible for many mental collapses. What shall we do to guard ourselves? Shall we close our eyes and ears to the sufferings of the

world, refuse to roll bandages because we cannot bear the thought of the terrible wounds these bandages may cover,—refuse to read the newspapers or books dealing with the war because it is "too horrible"? That way lies a deadening of sympathies, a stifling of human instincts, a stultifying of reasoning powers. Or shall we read every lurid detail we can get hold of, soak ourselves in emotion and scream hysteric demands through the newspapers for the country to "get up and do something" no matter what? That makes us a menace to society, for while the first course harms only ourselves, the second tends to inflame the popular mind, sap the national courage, foment distrust of the administration, incite to mob hysteria and perhaps to mob violence. We must keep sane, trust those in office, stop criticizing unless we know what we are talking about, keep our sympathies alive, our emotions controlled, do what we can to help. Now what can we librarians do?

The library may seem to us a very trivial affair in these days of national stress and stern emotion, when we all long to do something really big and worth while. But—perhaps you do not know that the library plays a very important part in the therapeutics of the modern hospital for the nervous and insane. While we make no pretensions that books cure the sick mind—that, of course, is absurd—it is true that whatever gets the mind out of its rut, out of its vicious circle of false reasoning, of going over and over and over again the same dreary round of thought, whatever can divert it into other channels even for a short time and give it rest, is curative, and books do accomplish this. Interesting work, especially if it is creative and so occupies the mind, helps;

\*Read at the Plymouth meeting of the Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Old Colony library clubs, July 7, 1917.

golf and tennis, when not too tiring, help; knitting and sewing, as a rule, do not, because the mind is left free to pursue its interminable round of thought while the fingers fly mechanically. But one cannot work or play strenuous games all the time, and it is in the intervals of these, after the day's business is over, that books are needed to bring their message to the still active brain. And the great thing about books is that there are so many kinds and they bring so many messages. For one it is poetry, for another a novel of thrilling adventure, for a third an absorbing detective story (no matter if it is a trifle "yellow" if it preserves his sanity); for still another a sweet and cheerful love story; others will turn to science or history while others still, and they are many, will seek the shelves of out-door books. Now if the public libraries can meet the needs of the people at large as the ideal hospital library does those of its patients, they will be performing a great national service,—that of helping the people to keep their emotional stability. Not unemotional, mind you, but sane, controlled emotion.

It is perfectly true that the hospital librarian can reach her readers much more intimately than the public librarian can; also that the small library in town or village is on more companionable terms with its readers than the large city library possibly can be. The larger the library the greater number of assistants, and, correspondingly, the less personal contact. But even here the sympathetic and resourceful person at the desk can devise ways of getting at her readers—or rather of letting her readers get at the books. All libraries, practically, have "new books" shelves and bring out as needed from the oblivion of the stack books on the topics of the day. Now why not have a recreational shelf alongside these? In my library, I made the interesting discovery that patients and nurses took out books that were in close proximity to the new books. It had been a matter of anxiety to me that our very excellent books on social service were known to so few, so, acting on this

discovery, I tried the experiment of moving the new books into the social service stack; presto! books on social service were taken out all the time and more demanded! Then I changed the new books to the history department with like results; history became very popular. Now I have them among biography, and lives of great men all remind us that they really are very interesting reading; books that never have been taken out before in the history of the library are read and enjoyed just because my people have found them for themselves. I might have recommended them till I was black in the face without achieving this result. The truth is, human nature is so very human! The mere fact that a thing is thrust upon one with strong encomiums seems to be a cogent reason for not taking it, while if it is casually left round it is eagerly appropriated.

Of course the first things we want today in the library which is really helpful, are war books. I am not speaking now of the educational part which they play—others can better treat of that; but it is a fact that this war is the greatest thing that ever happened and no one, unless he is a dementia praecox patient or headed that way, can remain entirely aloof and untouched by its mighty issues, and most of us, in New England at any rate, have lived with this war for nearly three years; it underlies all our thoughts, and most of us are consumed with a passion for service—personal service—something which will really help. Now to do anything intelligently we must understand this war—its causes, its trend, what principles the different nations are fighting for, and why the United States has entered the maelstrom. Otherwise it will seem a senseless massacre to us and we will be in no condition to help by intelligent thought and speech, if not by actual service, in the tremendous economic struggle and social upheaval which is surely coming after this war is over. In order to help towards a durable and lasting peace which shall make the world forever safe for democracy, we, the intelligent and thoughtful people of democratic America, must know, and un-

derstand and teach—and this is where the libraries come in. That library which does not give its community plenty of books and magazines which shall help toward a clearer understanding of the principles underlying this war is failing in its service to that community. The librarian, especially in a small village, who does not inform herself on war topics so she can answer questions and prove her opinions by authentic books which she can give her people is failing in just that personal service she so longs to give. Occasionally you find some one who frankly says he is not interested in the war, but in every case, if you will question him, you will find he knows nothing whatever about it, and most of us Americans are very eager to study things out for ourselves.

If we wish to preserve our emotional poise we must see to it that books on all the many sides of this war are at hand. I know no better way to show you what I mean than to illustrate by my own library, remembering always that I come in closer contact with my readers—patients, staff and training-school—than any one possibly can in a public library. Our men want books on the war; they ask for something on the causes—the “REAL causes”—knowing well that the assassination of an Austrian archduke by a Serbian was not the real cause. But what was it? Now for months a map hung in our library, and many, many times patients and nurses have studied that map and seen for themselves the geographic causes—the trend of every nation towards the sea; the hemmed-in position of the rapidly increasing population of the central empires and of Russia. Then they have read Gibbons’ *The New map of Europe* which lays bare the underhand diplomacy, the strangling of the small nations by all the great powers all jealous of one another. I tell you, every nation which interfered in the settlement of the last Balkan war is getting just what is coming to it right now in the Balkans! You cannot sow distrust and suspicion and reap enthusiastic love and respect! And if the European nations have not already learned that secret di-

plomacy will not do, then America has a hard job before her in trying to help make a durable and lasting peace. Give your thoughtful readers such books as Gibbons’, Sloane’s *The Balkans* and Shuster’s *The strangling of Persia* for arraignments of this diplomacy.

There is no doubt that Germany, in her desire for expansion, was blocked and balked in all her schemes by Great Britain, and there is little doubt that if she had submitted her case to the Hague tribunal she would have had much sympathy from the rest of the world; but she chose rather to shake the mailed fist, to consider herself the chosen “Scourge of God” for the world, and she educated her people for three generations in false history, in false philosophy, in machine-like docility to do the will of the “All-Highest,” meaning the Kaiser, not God. With a paranoiac who believes himself the incarnation of Attila the Hun at its head, this nation, trained to “the will to power” and “might makes right,” flung herself across the civilization of the world. If your people don’t believe it, give them Usher’s *Pan-Germanism*, Cramb’s *Germany and England*, Beck’s *The evidence in the case*, Owen Wister’s *The Pentecost of calamity*, Eric Fisher Wood’s two books—to mention a very few out of a score. Give them also the very able articles on both sides in the *Atlantic*, *Outlook*, *World’s Work*, *New Republic*, *Yale Review*, etc.

All your people won’t be intelligent enough for these books, but they all will like stories of trench life: Bairnsfather’s *Fragments from France* and *Bullets and bullets*; Boyd Cable’s stories; Kitchen-er’s *mob*, *The first hundred-thousand*; Frederic Palmer’s books; Powell’s *Fighting in Flanders*; that splendid epic of unconquerable Verdun, *They shall not pass*; Guy Empey’s *Over the top* (irresistably American); Coningsby Dawson’s inspiring letters in *Carry on*. Kipling’s *Sea warfare* tells of the thrilling exploits of the British navy; *Ambulance No. 10*, *Friends of France* and *The cellar-house at Pervyse* are equally thrilling personal narratives of ambulance and hospital work. Some authentic books of

what has been happening in Germany are Mrs Bullitt's *An uncensored diary from the Central empires*, Swope's *Inside the German empire*, and Curtin's *The land of deepening shadows*.

These are just a few of our most popular books which are out all the time. *Rae-makers'* cartoons should be included. Terrible? Of course they are terrible,—they make one shudder, but they are the simple inexorable verdict of a man who has *seen*. If Belgium and France can undergo this crucifixion, we can at least bear to look through out tears, and then, in a white hot passion of divine rage, give, give, give, with both hands and every ounce of strength in us, that the soul of this American nation may not perish through apathy!

But life is not lived on these high white pinnacles of patriotic exaltation, nor yet in the depths of black depression which invariably follows; it is lived on the sane, commonplace level of everyday things. To all of us come times when the spirit is satiated with war and we must get our minds off all these horrors and on lighter subjects. Just at this time, probably, the papers will be filled with new and worse statistics of the submarine, with fresh tales of atrocities in newly evacuated territory, and some Washington correspondent will hysterically demand that everybody be put out of office or our sons and brothers will be sacrificed to Democratic incompetency. Now is the time for the library to get out its antidotes in the shape of books to divert the mind and place them where the public thinks he finds them for himself. What would I put on this recreational shelf? Judging by what I want myself in such moods and what my patients ask for I would take some of Oppenheim and Joseph Lincoln, a few of the best detective stories in the library, some wild west tales, two or three of the prettiest love stories I knew, and the old favorites: *Kim*, *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped*, *The Gentleman from Indiana*, *Mr Crewe's career*, *Old Chester tales*, *Trollope* and *Jane Austen*. Then I would go to the poetry shelves and get *Longfellow* and *Lowell* and *Whittier*—mid-

Victorian to be sure, but very dear to the average public—the *Oxford Book of verse*, *High tide*, *Stedman's Victorian and American anthologies*, *Tales of the Mermaid Tavern*, *Masefield's Saltwater ballads*, and *Kipling's poems*. I would gather in some of *Dr Crothers'* and *Stephen Leacock's Essays on the way and other charming but little known volumes of essays* that people wouldn't see otherwise even though your library has the open shelf system. Then I would visit the 796's—which is the most interesting division in my library, for here I have gathered all out-door books, animal stories (*Thompson-Seton*, *Roberts*, *Long*) and those other books which are neither fiction nor nature studies, and which are lost on the essays shelves: *Charles Dudley Warner's My summer in a garden* (especially applicable this summer, when all America gardens and which in my library had been buried for years in the oblivion of the 630's), the *Jonathan papers*, *Adventures in contentment*, *Over against Green Peak*, *At the North of Bearcamp Water*, *Sand dunes and salt marshes*—don't the very titles make one long for the open? I would take a very liberal supply from here and from 798 and 799—mountaineering, hunting, fishing and camping. The beauty of these is that you can have all the mental delights of camping and none of the physical weariness; to one frankly middle-aged, the way thoroughly to enjoy the outdoor life is to read about it while comfortably reclining in a steamer chair inside a screened porch, with cool lemonade at hand and plenty of hot and cold water on tap in the house.

I think, if I were a librarian in a public library where I couldn't send things right over to the people I knew would appreciate them, I would have a clippings bulletin-board, and pin on it little poems which pleased or helped me. I wish someone would have painted on a great card, in letters that one could read across the room, that magnificent poem by *Richard Hovey*—*Unmanifest destiny*—and that it might be placed in every library, in the postoffices, in the training-camps—in every place where men con-



gregate, until every man, woman and child in the country might know it:

To what new fates, my country, far  
And unforeseen of foe or friend,  
Beneath what unexpected star,  
Compelled to what unchosen end,

Across the sea that knows no beach  
The Admiral of Nations guides  
Thy blind, obedient keel to reach  
The harbors where thy future rides!

The guns that spoke at Lexington  
Knew not that God was planning then  
The trumpet word of Jefferson  
To bugle forth the rights of men.

To them who wept and cursed Bull Run  
What was it but despair and shame?  
Who saw beneath the cloud the sun?  
Who knew that God was in the flame?

Had not defeat upon defeat,  
Disaster on disaster come,  
The slaves' emancipated feet  
Had never marched behind the drum.

There is a Hand that bends our deeds  
To mightier issues than we planned;  
Each son that triumphs, each that bleeds,  
My country, serves Its dark command.

I do not know beneath what sky  
Nor on what seas shall be thy fate;  
I only know it shall be high,  
I only know it shall be great.

With this before our eyes and in our hearts, would we dare be discouraged even though everything seemed against us?

Little jokes might be put on this bulletin-board, too; and anecdotes of courage and faith and hope and cheer. We might cull from the papers the little paragraphs hidden away in the corners which show what great things this nation really is doing very quietly—not the big headlines which tell us its mistakes. The papers take care that we shall not get unduly optimistic,—let the libraries indulge us a little in the cheering-up line. We might pin up the latest printed directions for socks and sweaters and helmets for our soldiers and sailors; we certainly should give prominence to articles on food conservation. In short, why not make the library the live centre of interest in the town?

(To be continued)

### Standardization of Library Service

At the recent meeting of the Ohio library association the following notes of Miss Electra C. Doren, chairman of the committee on standardization, were offered for consideration as a basis of discussion.

The chairman thought it seemed unwise to proceed with local state work in this field until the A. L. A. report shall be more definite and less complicated in its analysis and there is a clear understanding by everybody, particularly those affected by the movement as to what its particular features are. Two features in the A. L. A. discussion are outstanding, namely:

1. Standardization of libraries according to income, population served and lines of work undertaken by the library.

2. The standardization of library service as indicated by the personnel of the library staff, in respect to educational qualifications, technical training and experience, salary, library hours, vacation privileges, etc.

It is clearly apparent that discussion looking toward legal provision for pensions for library employees must be deferred until greater uniformity through standardization of library service has been obtained. There should be a voluntary, popular movement for standardization on the part of all library workers. A standardization card is under preparation by Mr Windsor of the University of Illinois. This is to be developed for libraries over 10,000 v. in various series.

The standard of library service might be approached on the minimum of entrance requirements and educational qualifications or a stated equivalent such as a diploma. It should be borne in mind that no detriment any where will be inflicted because arriving at sufficient uniformity in terms, definitions and qualification of work as will permit a definite basis of understanding in making or accepting appointment to service.

This is a subject which touches all library workers and full and free discussion should precede decision.

### A. L. A. War Service and Now—Books

#### *To the Members of the American Library Association:*

The campaign for funds is now (for the time) completed. It has yielded returns which prove the extraordinary energy and enthusiasm you have put into it.

But the sum raised, though large, is meagre compared with the needs. Three hundred and twenty thousand dollars of it (the grant from the Carnegie Corporation) is specifically for buildings—which constitute an obligation as well as an opportunity. And besides the needs in this country there are and will be the needs abroad, which will require every effort that we can apply to them.

We shall buy books; but every book bought should be offset by at least ten books given.

#### *So now, the Campaign for Books.*

Not for any books that may be offered, but for those certain to prove useful. You have the necessary description of these. Ask for specific books. You will be likely to get them.

The responsibility is yours to avoid sending what will be a wasteful expense to transport and administer.

*Books.* As to magazines, *avoid excess.* Emphasize the suggested list, and of these ship only *recent issues.*

Except as otherwise instructed, ship to the central points already designated.

HERBERT PUTNAM,  
General Director,

A. L. A. War Service for Soldiers and Sailors.

#### Establishing a Precedent, Costs

The October number of your Journal carries with it a statement relative to my case against the Mayor of the city of Tacoma for his failure to sign a warrant for my traveling expenses in connection with a trip East during the summer of 1916 when I was specifically instructed by the library board to investigate certain problems, confer with the Carnegie Corporation and attend the American Library Association meeting. The item you have published noted that the case was decided in my favor in the Superior court and that the Mayor was instructed to sign the warrant, which had been held up for twelve months, and the award of the court included six per cent interest from the date of refusing to sign.

However you may care to publish the information that though the city stated that it would appeal to the Supreme court for a review of the decision of the Superior court and though the preliminary steps in the appeal were taken, the city attorney ultimately withdrew the appeal and the decision of the Superior court obliging the Mayor to sign the warrant and awarding interest stands as law.

It might be noted that although the expense was incurred under written instructions from the library board, under the law the suit had to be brought in the name of the librarian in whose favor the warrant had been drawn, and the library board could not legally pay the attorney's fees involved in the case, so that although the money was paid out on the written instructions of the board the librarian was obliged to bear the expense of the suit merely to reimburse him personally.

JOHN B. KAISER,  
Librarian.

Tacoma public library.

#### The Stranger

I met him on a goodly strip  
Of life's big road, and as the trip  
Is long at best, we traveled so  
Into the sunset's crimson glow.  
He spun a tale for my delight,  
Inspired my soul to clearer sight;  
And when at night I left him there  
My load seemed easier to bear,  
And would you meet him? Some day look  
Between the covers of a book  
That seems to hold you to the end,  
Then you, too, will have hailed him friend.

—Jane McLean.

### "No New Fiction During the War"

This should be the librarian's slogan. The opportunity has come to prove to people that the library will help in the serious business of life. Library funds are materially reduced in many places. The demands on funds for books on technical subjects, which fit young men for public service, are greater than ever before in the history of libraries. The ordinary library cannot meet these demands and continue to supply the latest book of moving-picture fiction for the person who uses the library unworthily. There are already on the shelves of every library, stocks of the world's best fiction. It is not necessary to cease the use of the library for recreational purposes. Let the fiction readers turn to the older books.

It is, of course, possible that some new work of fiction will be a contribution to literature, and it should be understood that libraries will buy these books of fiction which are inspirational and really great, but with all the sacrifice that is being made throughout the country, it certainly would be unbecoming and unwise for librarians to continue to spend money for light fiction. People are asked to do without sugar, to do without wheat, to make great personal sacrifices in every possible way for our own people and for the starving people of Europe. Can it be possible that libraries in this emergency will continue to supply new fiction just the same as before? It was something of a crime to do it before, but we never had the courage to turn away the confirmed fiction reader. Will not the war-time demands give us this courage? It is a wonderful opportunity so far as the fiction reader is concerned, as even the most worthless of this discouraging class will be impressed with the statement that the library is *needed* for war purposes just now, and the reader herself will come back to us next year, grateful for having been kind to someone else, and for the feeling that comes not only from sacrifice, but from reading good literature.

CORNELIA MARVIN.

### A Weary World

The following is by one of the scholarly librarians of the country. Who has a reply?

Between ourselves I must confess that I sometimes weary of reading about new honors and emoluments heaped upon mediocre and worse than mediocre acquaintances who happen to have the gift of facile speech or pen and can supply *ad libitum* more or less glittering generalities about the library as an institution. Why has our noble profession (?) no standards but a man's own opinion of himself? Of course we *have* our few great men whose abilities all must admire especially our own —and— but so often the limelight is played upon library fakers who never did a decent piece of work in their lives, but who can and will talk.

With thanks for your own good efforts for our craft.

Yours, etc.

### Suggestions Wanted

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES: I was very much interested in reading the article, Exchange of Service, in the November number of the magazine. An exchange of service in many cases would be beneficial to the library as well as the librarian. There are doubtless a number of country librarians, who would like to spend a winter in the city, and some city librarians, who would enjoy the country for a few months. How can librarians interested in an exchange of service get in touch with each other?

A COUNTRY LIBRARIAN.

### Duplicates

The following books are identical, page for page, with the exception of the title:

Shackleton, Robert.

Touring Great Britain. Penn Pub Co. 1917.

Shackleton, Robert and Elizabeth.

Four on a tour in England. Hearst's International Library Company. 1914.

WALTER L. BROWN,  
Librarian.

Buffalo public library,  
November 8, 1917.

## Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

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M. E. AHER - - - - - Editor

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Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1879.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

**Books**—It is good news to hear that progress is being made in getting the camp libraries in order and ready for work. This is the time when study and work can best be done and the winter supply of books, even if not large, will do the work of many more next Spring. Word comes from Ohio and Oregon of close cooperation on the part of the State libraries in the matter of organizing the camp libraries in those states. Others will doubtless be doing the same. But books are the great need and there must be no let up in the appeals for them on every imaginable occasion by libraries and every other organization that can be interested in the matter.

**Anti-war literature**—There is considerable discussion as to what to do with material that comes into the library representing the German point of view of the present situation. Russell B. Harrison of Indianapolis thinks there is a

regular propaganda by means of insidious literature sent to public libraries and calls for a committee to cooperate with the library in eradicating forever all treasonable and disloyal literature and books in libraries and public schools. He cites a great number of instances which he has found which he calls "treasonable propaganda work in the interest of the German cause."

In an address before the Illinois library association, Mr. Roden, acting librarian of the Chicago public library, advises that this literature be received but not sorted and put on the shelves—simply stored until after the war. Still another library says that scholars and investigators must know what the enemy is saying in order to effectively meet and refute their statements. Somewhere between all these lies the better way and the A. L. A. committee on International relations, or Book-buying or perhaps Work with the blind might at some of their leisure moments work out a proposal for discussion at the A. L. A. council, on which to reach a decision fitting the situation for most libraries.

**Book plates for army books**—In a number of places the suggestion of the War committee to place a book plate acknowledging the donor, giving his name and address in every book presented for camp libraries, was taken up. This idea seems an admirable one from every standpoint, especially in the supplementary message such a book plate would carry to the reader in his far away station, serving as a touch from home, a signet of the remembrance held of him by those who are left behind. Attention was called last month to the plate of the Chicago public library. This month comes one from the Public

library of Newark, N. J., which not only reminds the reader that the book was sent by the people of Newark through its library and schools, but contains also an offer to purchase any book on an attached list by sending a request for it to the Public library commission of New Jersey. The list contains something over 100 books of non-fiction of an informational character and all of them the best of their kind.

A plate from Stockton, Cal., serves as a receipt for the donor, detachable and as a message to the reader as well. These things will serve to warm the hearts of the soldier boys quite as desirably as knitting will warm their bodies. But let's have both!

**War literature**—Librarians are finding the question of what to do with the pamphlet war literature that accumulates so quickly on the library tables, something of a problem. It is a question calling for serious attention from each individual library and can be answered adequately only by taking into consideration the locality of the library. Where there is a reference library in the same locality the preservation of general material may well be left to it. But every library can make a collection of the local material, that is reports, posters, photographs and anything graphic bearing on the community which supports the library. This time of calamity will show the great lack which poor print paper causes as it falls to pieces before much time elapses. But an effort to keep something of historical value for the future will bring its reward in time.

That some one library or institution ought to preserve manuals of the part taken by its inhabitants in this great war is beyond all question. How much each

locality should do in the way of collecting material on the part taken by other localities or by the nation itself has to be considered very carefully from points of view of space and funds. A library which should spend on the collecting and housing miscellaneous war literature means and time necessary for local duty would certainly be to blame.

The effect of the war on educational institutions will itself be a subject of which the literature deserves collection. How some ancient colleges have been destroyed, others have been turned into military training camps and others still have added to them courses suggested by war necessities, make new fields of study.

**The War Library fund**—It is announced that the goal of a million dollars has been passed by more than a third of the amount. This is a gratifying mark of public confidence.

But the interest in and appreciation of libraries that its gathering awakened is a much more significant fact in the field of library service. It will be little less than criminal if the libraries do not by the quality of their service, the buoyancy of the spirit of their work hold fast and increase the large place the occasion gave to library service in the minds of the business, the practical, the worth-while groups of the public. Even the children will look on library service as something that held high rank for a season at least. In many places instances of the increased respect of the children because they were asked to help build libraries for the soldiers and sailors is already manifest. So far as the effort that has just closed is concerned, it but remains for those in places of power and authority to render in the use of the money subscribed the same loyalty, efficiency and endeavor that marked the efforts that gave them their opportunity to serve.



### American Library Association

#### Library war service

The A. L. A. War Finance committee met in the Chillicothe public library building on November 17, at 10 a. m. There were present: Messrs Hill, Brett, Anderson, Porter, Settle, Hodges, Wyer, Utley, Roden, Ranck, Wheeler, Leete, Tilton, Tripp, Miss Doren, Dr Clark and Dr Andrews.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr F. P. Hill, who gave a general review of the campaign, stating the amount already promised, with fresh returns coming in every day, was \$1,481,000, the amount of cash received to date being \$1,107,000.

The following recommendations by the chairman were adopted for transmission to the War Service committee:

1. That the chairman be authorized to release the assistant-treasurer from his bond.

2. That the fund now deposited in The American Security and Trust company be invested, after consultation with the War Council, and that the same be so placed as to receive the maximum interest consistent with safety and fluidity.

3. That the monthly subscription account be kept separate from the Soldiers' book fund.

4. That the Carnegie gift of \$320,000 be counted as part of the Soldiers' book fund raised by the A. L. A.

5. That the continuance of an assured income during the period of the war be secured: a) by increasing monthly pledges; b) by mite boxes in all libraries; c) by preparation within our own ranks for a financial campaign next year; d) and by other means.

The War Service committee held a separate meeting to consider a number of things.

1. In view of the fact that much of the work heretofore conducted by committees is now in the hands of the General Director, it was voted that the following sub-committees be discontinued:

State agencies—M. S. Dudgeon, chairman.

Local agencies—Gratia A. Countryman, chairman.

War Library manual—George F. Bowerman, chairman.

Transportation—R. H. Johnston, chairman. (Note: Mr Johnston is, however, rendering very active and very valuable service in connection with shipments of furniture to the various camps).

Camp libraries—J. I. Wyer, Jr., chairman.

Publicity—Arthur E. Bostwick, chairman.

Federal publications—H. H. B. Meyer, chairman.

Selection of books—Benjamin Adams, chairman.

2. That there should at once be started an intensive campaign for books even more carefully organized than was the recent campaign for money. That one full time paid official with necessary clerical help be engaged in the capacity of a department head for such an enterprise.

3. That the American Library Association be asked to audit the accounts of the A. L. A. War Finance committee.

4. That the supervision of the fund be turned over to the A. L. A. on December 10, to be managed through the regular Finance committee and special War Service committee with such increased assistance as may be needed.

5. That a final history of the campaign be prepared by the chairman and secretary of the War Finance committee, the expense of printing to be provided for, preferably from the monthly pledge fund.

Voted: That the thanks of the committee be given to members of the Library War council for their services in the late campaign. That cordial appreciation and thanks be given to the Public library of the District of Columbia for their generous provision of quarters and many additional courtesies during the financial campaign.

#### Midwinter Meeting Cancelled

Owing to the unusual conditions induced by the war, President T. L. Montgomery authorizes the announcement of the omission of the midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. Council for this year. Many of its members are actively engaged in fields of war service which they could leave long enough to attend a council meeting only with difficulty, and it hardly seems the proper time under the circumstances to discuss matters and policies that can be considered at a more propitious time.

### Memorial to Henry E. Legler

On Tuesday evening, October 30, at the Art Institute in Chicago a public meeting was held to honor the memory of the late Henry E. Legler, librarian of the Chicago public library. The meeting, in which 17 organizations joined, was presided over by Professor George H. Mead of the University of Chicago. After reading a number of telegrams from friends of Mr Legler in distant parts of the country, a previously arranged program was presented.

Mr Carl B. Roden, acting librarian of the Chicago public library, spoke of the relations existing between Mr Legler and the staff of the library. Miss M. E. Ahern spoke of the liberal policy introduced by Mr Legler in behalf of the work of the women's clubs of Chicago. She also told of the professional standing of Mr. Legler in the library world. Mr Matthew Woll of the State Federation of labor paid a glowing tribute to the democratic policy of Mr Legler in bringing the books of the Public library to the people engaged in manual labor in shops, factories, etc.

Mr John D. Shoop, Superintendent of Chicago Public schools, spoke feelingly of the great help rendered to the school work by the liberal policy followed by the library and the personal interest of Mr Legler in that work.

Robert J. Thorne, president of Montgomery Ward & Co., told of the profitable work accomplished for the business houses by the library deposits from the library, and the inspiration of Mr Legler's visits to the business men's meetings.

Prof Graham Taylor, who was president of the Board during the period of change brought about by Mr Legler's coming, gave a glowing tribute to the wisdom, tact and ability which wrought so silently and so well in bringing the library and the people of Chicago nearer together.

Prof Mead in closing the meeting expressed the high esteem in which the people of Chicago held Mr Legler as a

gentleman, as public librarian and as a friend to man.

Fullerton hall held a deeply appreciative audience made up of all classes of citizens who by their presence paid their respect to the beloved public servant. Masses of flowers and palms sent by the Park boards decorated the hall.

Under the auspices of the City club of Chicago a fund of \$2,000 was raised in a week for a Henry E. Legler ambulance to be sent to Italy.

### Children's Day

The National Child Labor committee has sent out an appeal for the libraries throughout the country to observe Child Labor day January 26-28, 1918. To those who will agree to observe the day, the National Child Labor committee, 105 East Twenty-second street, New York city, will send pamphlets and directions for making the occasion a success. These pamphlets and printed material will be sent only on specific request.

### Printed Catalog Cards

Pending certain experiments and rearrangements in its printing plans the University of Chicago libraries has been obliged to discontinue for some time, the distribution of its printed cards according to the terms set forth in the circular issued in 1912. At present between 3000 and 4000 titles are printed each year, which number may be increased to 5000 later.

It is the plan, in case series of monographs not covered by the Library of Congress, the John Crerar library, or the American library association cards, are catalogued, to issue circulars in advance of printing, inviting subscriptions for sets of such cards. Orders for cards and inquiries in regard to them should be addressed to the Associate Director of Libraries, University of Chicago.

Dr. Herbert Putnam, General Director of the Library war council, reports that an anonymous gift has been made for a library building at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Illinois.

### Illinois Library Association 1917 Conference

The Illinois library association convened for its regular annual meeting,\* October 17-19, at Decatur. This was a very central location, easily accessible from all parts of the state. The hotel accommodations were unusually satisfactory. The Orlando, the headquarters hotel, was able to accommodate all the delegates and also to provide a large auditorium and sufficient committee rooms for all meetings both of a business and social nature.

Wednesday evening, President W. F. Hardy of the Board of trustees opened the meeting, expressing the pleasure that the Decatur public library took in this opportunity of meeting the librarians of the State. President R. C. Augustine of the School board, acting for Mayor Dineen, whose official duties prevented him from appearing until later in the evening, gave the association a most cordial welcome to the city. Miss Effie Lansden, president, responded in behalf of the association. After this meeting, the Decatur library staff held a delightful reception for the townspeople and delegates.

#### General session, Thursday morning October 18

The association was called to order by President Effie A. Lansden at nine o'clock. She spoke of the unfortunate experience of the association in losing three of its officers, Mr Barr, president, Miss Mabel Thain, first vice-president, and Mr Reece, secretary. She then read letters of greeting from each of these officers. Mr Barr reviewed the losses and gains of the legislative work of the year and was inclined to think that tho the high hopes of the committee had been in a measure dispelled by the shadow of politics and the war cloud, the foundation for future success had been laid. He spoke also of the large service awaiting libraries in the camps of the new army and urged that the Illinois library asso-

ciation should not fall behind in this great work. It was with a feeling of sorrow and of deep personal loss that the association listened to Miss Thain's message, for this letter was one of the last official acts of her life. She dwelt on Service as the keynote of library work and especially in the great crisis of today, when the public libraries must serve not only their own communities but must be active in the service of the nation. Mr Reece congratulated the association on the encouraging condition of the libraries in the state due to the activities of the Library commission, and also to the fact that Illinois has unusual opportunities for library education, as it has a summer school of its own and one of the highest grade library schools in the country. He urged that the association should not lose sight of the state-wide library interests through desire to answer the many calls which might come from local, national, and international sources.

Miss Lansden called attention to the unfairness of a small membership in the association bearing the expense of developing better library conditions for the state, which were as helpful and enjoyable to non-members as to members. She announced that the Executive board had decided to send a copy of the proceedings to all members, that a directory of membership with position and library would be published early in 1918 for the members and in other ways membership would be worth while for the librarians of the state.

The secretary's report was then received. In addition to the usual routine work, several important matters had been handled by the secretary. The new state officers had been informed of the plans of the association in regard to the consolidation of the library agencies in Springfield, and an endorsement of the association's legislative program had been secured from the Federation of Women's clubs at their meeting in Urbana. Many letters had been addressed to members of the association asking them to use any influence at their disposal to promote the passage of the library bill by the legislature.

\*The association was founded, January 23, 1896, at East St. Louis and has held an annual meeting every year since.—*Ed. of P. L.*

The treasurer's report was then given. It showed a balance from last year of \$183.85; receipts for the current year were \$181.40, making a total of \$365.25. The expenditures had been \$160.99, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$204.26. The treasurer reported a paid membership of 172. It was voted unanimously that no receipts should be sent where the payment of dues was by check.

The report of the A. L. A. delegate was given by Miss Adah Whitcomb, who spoke of the great interest of the conference in the formulation of the plans for the War Library Service campaign, which has been so successful in raising money and collecting books for the camp libraries. She mentioned the fact that Illinois had an unusually good representation; that the section meetings were unusually interesting and well attended and that the story-telling feature in the children's librarians' section was especially delightful.

#### The question box

The question box on Thursday morning afforded an opportunity for a very lively and helpful discussion of questions pertaining to library service in the library and out. It was regrettable that time was curtailed as many more questions were offered than there was opportunity to discuss. Some of the questions submitted were as follows:

Q. What is the best thing to do with the large accumulation of pamphlets and leaflets on the war? A. These should be made as public as possible while they are fresh and afterward turned over to the nearest library making a collection of such material. Small libraries ought not to try to make a collection of such material, only so far as it relates to local matters, soldiers, etc. A collection of such material will become more valuable as time goes on.

Q. What is the best thing to do with all the war literature that is being received from England? A. Some of these pamphlets might be collected, classified and cataloged as books; otherwise send them to a historical library.

Q. What part of the money paid by the borrower for the loss of a book should be returned to him in case the book is found and returned after a month's absence? A. The amount exceeding the fine on the book might be returned or the borrower might be allowed to keep the book.

Q. What juvenile magazines do you recommend for the children's room in addition to St. Nicholas and the Youth's Companion? A. Duplicate these. None other is so good.

Q. What is the best way to create an interest in necessary reading during war time in a comparatively small community, many of the people being of foreign birth? A. Comments on books, pictures from book, extracts from book posted on bulletin board. Arrange for an evening's reading aloud by a prominent foreigner if possible, otherwise by a popular American.

Q. What per cent of the population should use the library? Why? A. Very few communities have 50 per cent of the population. This is a goal that all should try to reach. The library is paid for by the people. Poor economy to support an institution that is not used.

Q. What are the libraries doing toward aiding the Hoover administration in its campaign for food production and conservation? A. Providing and advertising books, pamphlets, magazine articles, illustrations, recipes. Allowing the use of assembly rooms for demonstrations, holding exhibits and lectures.

Q. Why does Illinois lag behind in library salaries? A. Does it?

Q. Ought library club work to be conducted on a democratic basis or ought the social distinctions of the young people be considered? A. A club fostered by the library can have no social distinctions. What the young people themselves may do is another matter.

Q. Are reading clubs profitable? A. If properly conducted, alive and effective, they cannot fail to be profitable.

Q. What do you advise to stop fiction reading? A. Why try to stop it? More advisable to put emphasis on certain kinds of non-fiction.

Q. How is the best way to have a country library of 8,000 v. reorganized and cataloged? Does it pay? A. Any library can get along for a while without a catalog provided it has a good shelf list and open shelves, but it certainly pays to have a good index to the contents of the shelves.

Q. Would you advise cataloging a High school library of 3,000 v.? A. By all means. The high school library of a few books needs thorough cataloging to make all of the material available.

Q. Who should decide the library policy? A. The relation of the library to the general community should be decided by the trustees. The policy of the internal administration should be the work of the librarian.

Q. Should married women be favored in the office of librarianship? A. Free hand and no favors is all that any well-regulated librarian ought to receive.

Q. What is the best method to limber

teachers in a small town? A. Personal acquaintance, exchange of courtesies, sympathetic understanding usually will work. There is much material in print concerning teas, exhibits, etc.

Q. What ought a tired librarian with one assistant and much work, do for the war? A. Let war work go or let the library go. A live library will do much to help the war work. Certainly the library ought not to suffer for the sake of knitting, nor should the publicity of the material suffer on account of red tape and library technicalities.

Q. Can interest in a school club be kept up by a program that is merely educational, or ought some social features be introduced? A. Local conditions, advancement, environment of the club members will largely determine this. A democratic social spirit should always prevail even in educational work.

Q. What is a good way to remove disagreeable odors from circulating books? Can you name a good disinfectant which will also perfume the books? A. Open for discussion.

#### Report of the Library commission

Miss Price reported that two new public and eleven new subscription libraries had been established, that four new buildings, all gifts of citizens, were under construction in Mount Hope, Urbana, Warsaw, and McKendree college at Lebanon. She reported that the number of libraries delinquent to the Carnegie Corporation had been reduced to five and a clear record was expected by July, 1918, but that co-operation was necessary, interest must be aroused and the libraries must be made indispensable to their communities before the city councils could be persuaded to levy the proper tax. Much aid was given during the year by correspondence on questions relating to administration and interpretation of library law, visits to libraries had been made, and conferences held with trustees. Two library institutes had been held, in Chicago in May and one in Urbana in connection with the Summer library school of the University of Illinois. Nine trained librarians had been placed in Illinois libraries, six as head librarians.

#### Illinois decisions

The attorney-general had given it as his opinion that, 1. The control of the library fund is vested entirely with the library trustees; 2. The library board has the right to draw upon the library

funds to defend itself in court; 3. The library fund cannot be used to purchase a library building while it may be used to purchase a site or erect a building. During the year, 21 requests had come for aid in reorganizing libraries, and as the commission had no available member of the staff that could be spared for this work, the only way it could be met was to induce the library board to engage a trained librarian for the purpose. Six libraries were cataloged in this way and arrangements had been made for three more. Miss Price reported an increase in the appropriation, owing largely to the influence of Mr L. L. Emerson, secretary of state, who has shown great interest in the library development in the state. There was, however, no appropriation for the extra help which is so badly needed. Large charts were displayed illustrating the work, one showing the location of the 18 counties without libraries and one showing these 18 counties with the additional 33 counties having only one library. A county library in each of these 41 counties (half of the state) would give the best service at the least cost. Another chart represented the 36 township libraries which at present are the only public libraries which can offer free privileges to the rural public.

#### R. R. Bowker's address

Mr Drury then introduced the speaker of the morning, Mr R. R. Bowker, who spoke in his usual delightful way on the early history of the A. L. A. He said that he liked to think of the library spirit which was one of loving service, bringing not the book to the public but the public to the book, and that there had never been any feeling of self-sacrifice in this spirit because the librarians all had such great enjoyment in their work. He divided the development of the A. L. A. into three periods: first, The dark ages before 1850; second, The middle period, or The dawn, 1850-1876; third, The modern period, or The deluge, 1876 to date. He told of the 1853 conference which just failed of starting the Modern period because there was no Melvil Dewey to carry on the work. There



were 80 men and no women present. Dr Poole's index was endorsed and a committee of organization was appointed, but for some reason this committee was never heard from again. The 1876 meeting was the result of a call sent out when the plans for the *Library Journal* were being discussed. At the conference, which met in Philadelphia, there were six people present who had been at the 1853 conference: Mr Bernard, Dr Poole, Mr Vinton, Mr Guild, and Mr L. B. Smith and Mr J. W. Wallace. Of the 103 present at this meeting there were three women who represented a silent minority. They were Miss Rule and Miss Matthews of the Lynn library and Miss Anna Godfrey. He threw many interesting sidelights on the proceedings of a number of the early conferences, and introduced the listeners to many of the men and women whose names are familiar to all library workers, characterizing them in a delightful way and telling many amusing stories of the adventures of this small group of pioneers.

#### **Women's Council of National Defense**

The next number was an address by Miss Virginia Chandler, chairman of the Publicity committee of the Women's Council of National Defense. She explained the organization and work of the council and especially of her own department. She said that they had a very highly specialized library and had on file information relating to women's war work and other allied subjects in Canada, England and other parts of the United States, so that as soon as a valuable suggestion was received it could be put to a test in Illinois. This material is supplied to any speaker or individual desiring it and as soon as new material comes in, post cards are sent to interested persons so that they may be able to avail themselves of it. A page of the *Woman's Press* is also given over to the work of the council. Their library contains newspaper clippings, U. S. Government reports, State documents, and all pertinent reports from the Canadian and English governments and all the allied relief committees. They have found of value publications on war questions is-

sued by established organizations such as the American Social Hygiene association, National Child Labor committee, National society for mental hygiene, etc. She said that librarians in Chicago were reading and indexing over 60 magazines, so that all material available on woman's work would be on file in the Council's office. She said that librarians could help by putting up a bulletin board and posting in their libraries all posters, leaflets, handbooks, etc., issued by the council. They could find out the needs of their locality and make a list of what the women of the community could do to help, furnishing references and material on the subject; that registration of the women of the state was a field where the librarian with her knowledge of the organization, indexing, filing, etc., could be of great assistance; that the library should be used as a distributing center for information and literature about the Red Cross, the Hoover food conservation plan and general Allied Relief work news. Interest among the women in food production should be stimulated and the needs of the local hospitals and charitable institutions should be brought to their attention. She said that the present crisis was a wonderful opportunity for popularizing the library and at the same time doing a vast amount of war work for the nation and the community.

After announcements, the meeting adjourned.

#### **Round Tables; Thursday afternoon, October 18**

The afternoon session was given up to the Librarian's roundtable and the Trustees' conference.

The Round table was presided over by Miss Ida Wright of the Lincoln library, Springfield, and the general topic for discussion was, "The human touch in extension work."

Mr Marcus Skarstedt, librarian of the Evanston library, was the first speaker. He classified libraries as human and inhuman. He said that though rapidly becoming extinct there still existed the museum type of library where a beautiful state of order existed, the color scheme was harmonious and the attendants wore

an air of detachment. The poor public, however, had the feeling of "look but touch not" which they would have in any well-conducted museum and only visited such a library in cases of extreme need. In contrast with this type was the highly humanized library where modern ideas of business prevailed, where the work was well advertised with posters containing the right amount of personal appeal, where the place simply buzzed with activity and good feeling, where the books were displayed within reach and the attendant both helpful and smiling. He thought that every library should be studied and that practical applications of the humanizing qualities should be made, so that the library might become a vital part of the community life.

#### Library stations in schools

Miss Clara L. Abel, children's librarian, Lincoln library, Springfield, spoke on the human bond between the library and the school. She said that the library station was filling a place in the community that the main library, in spite of all its facilities, was too remote to fill. She described the Springfield system of extension libraries which, through the co-operation of the school board and the teachers, they had been able to place in the outlying districts where they were most needed. The teacher-librarian is given charge of the library as part of her school work, and she makes her own circulation rules. The books were selected after conferences with the teachers and the general aim had been to supply only general reading for the child. The text books, reference books, etc., were supplied by the school board. It had been found that a teacher who knows the books in her collection is a very effective agent in reaching the children; she knows where her pupils needs rounding out and her recommendation of a certain book will carry more weight than that of any one else. In addition to these stations especially for the children, the school board had granted permission for the library to place collections of books for adults in the schools which are used in the evenings for community centers. The teacher is also the librarian,

but is paid for her extra work by the Board of Education. The exchange system is used in the adult stations, in this way the collections are changed more often than if new books had to be purchased. She also told of much interesting social work that was being done through these stations.

#### Personal touch

Miss Victoria Bronson, head of the extension work of the Decatur public library, gave a very interesting paper on the necessity of getting in actual touch with the people who used the books. She said that the tendency in placing small collections of books in out-of-the-way stations was to let the service be of the long-distance variety. But in her work she had found it of great value to time her visits so that she could meet the people who used the station, that it was necessary to be interested in each reader, to talk, listen, sympathize, and to follow up all requests so as to establish if possible that sequence in reading which often leads the boy or girl to prepare themselves for better positions.

#### Township extension

Miss Kate Ferguson of the Douglas township library, gave a most entertaining account of her efforts to do extension work in a township. She had gone into a community where the library was a new, and in some cases an unwelcome institution and where the trained librarian was looked on with suspicion. She turned all her efforts to making a community center of the library and had gradually succeeded, till there was a constant procession of local meetings, Boy Scouts, women's clubs, baby shows, Red Cross work. She told how she had utilized every opportunity and how she had gradually changed her own status from the "high priced librarian" to the knitting teacher, and friend in need, of all those who had dropped a stitch. In the meantime the books were going out.

#### Shop libraries

Mr O. E. Norman, librarian of the Peoples Gas Light & Coke Co., of Chicago, spoke next on the human tie between the library and shops and factories. He said this could be established

only by rousing the employee's interest through curiosity and self-interest. That personal acquaintance was an important factor in building up confidence, that the people must be brought to the library, one must talk to them individually and in groups about the things most of interest to them and must participate in their social events and in their sports. He advised reading rooms, educational classes, bulletin boards, letters, as a means of getting the right books to them, and said that if the library had the right books to meet the needs and advertised them there was no trouble in getting them read.

Trustee's conference: Miss Ahern was the leader of this meeting, which was well attended. One or more trustees from the following cities were present: Cairo, Chillicothe, Belleville, Chicago, Danville, Decatur, Dixon, Evanston, Gilman, Hinsdale, Hoopeston, Lafayette, Mattoon, Moline, Rock Island, Taylorville, and White Hall.

[The following report is made by one of the trustees present. M. E. A.]

#### Trustees' section

The libraries of the state were well and ably represented in the Trustees' section of the I. L. A., which met on Thursday afternoon. While the original program was shattered by a combination of circumstances beyond the control of anyone, a well arranged and well executed substitute formulated at a late hour, proved highly entertaining and profitable to the trustees present.

The meeting of the trustees' section was in charge of Miss M. E. Ahern, who had arranged for a few formal addresses on timely subjects. The informal discussion was freely participated in by most of the trustees in attendance.

That Illinois has many live people on library boards was clearly demonstrated. Most gratifying of all is the showing that these trustees realize their responsibility and appreciate their privilege in furthering this all important work. Political recognition is not the main idea of a trustee today, but the dominating principle that a useful public duty is the first consideration.

The addresses and discussions dealt with live issues. A trustee's usefulness particularly in cooperating with and assisting the librarian was the issue more often emphasized.

"A library may have an able and conscientious governing board, it may at the same time have a skilled and competent librarian, but unless the two work in full unison and harmony, the best results are not obtained. How to 'pull with the staff' to the maximum degree is what we seek to know."

The experience and plans of operation of the Evanston public library were set forth in the opening address. President Cartwright's address showing the careful supervision and faithful services of this partular board was an inspiration to the other trustees who heard him and who cannot fail to profit by his address.

Among the live subjects considered may be mentioned: The importance of specializing book lists. One trustee told of the benefit to a fire department of a collection of books on subjects vital to its maintenance and efficiency. Business efficiency books such as salesmanship, office methods, electrical engineering, architecture and kindred subjects was the hobby of one trustee present. The great war and contemporary interests came in for their share of attention. The library was urged to cater to the enlightenment of special interests as well as to inform on current events. This field of usefulness should be cultivated to the limit by every library in the state.

The influence of the trustee in legislative matters has been of much importance heretofore but it was emphasized that this sphere of usefulness is open to much expansion. Trustees should be abreast of the times during legislative sessions and exert their influence vigorously in matters pertaining to library legislation.

The subject of committees was handled without gloves. Committees of trustee boards are useful when properly regulated, but the tendency of committee chairmen to assume too much was severely condemned.

The library as a social center was commended as bringing it into its own. This function of the library is too often overlooked. In this connection a most excellent program is carried on at Bloomington, where the librarian is associated with the Woman's club and does much to link the library up with local interests. Newspaper publicity, published book lists on timely subjects and literary entertainments under library auspices were all valuable suggestions.

To a trustee of the male persuasion a most gratifying revelation was the enthusiasm and intelligent participation of a number of women trustees present. These women have not failed to measure up to the full stature of trustees, nor have they contented themselves with the local honor of their appointment, but are assuming and discharging their duties with a realizing sense of the responsibility incurred.

An interesting visitor was a trustee of the Brooklyn public library who also serves a Massachusetts library in the same capacity.

"I will return home a better trustee," was the verbal expression of some and doubtless the firm determination of all. It is to be hoped that this useful feature of the library association may develop until it reaches a place of importance second to none in our public economy.

#### Trustees registered

There was a larger number of trustees present at the Decatur meeting than has been present for a long time. The following were registered, but there were others present who did not register: Mrs Lillian B. Carrol, Chillicothe; C. M. Cartwright, Evanston; Mary B. Dole, Mattoon; Mrs R. F. Oplinger, Taylorville; L. R. Osterhaus, Belleville; E. C. Parsons, Dixon; H. W. Schriver, Gilman; Mary Smith, Lafayette; Mrs Helen B. Stephens, Danville; Mary C. Stetson, White Hall; E. D. Tweedell, Hinsdale; J. B. Wallbridge, Hoopeston; Mrs W. H. Wood, Cairo; O. E. Childes, Moline; W. F. Hardy, Decatur; Mrs. N. D. McKinney, Bloomington.

O. E. CHILD,  
Trustee Moline public library.

#### General session, Thursday, October 18, 8 p. m.

This session was held in Kaeuper hall, James Milliken university, and was of great general interest. Mr Windsor introduced Mr Victor Yarros of Hull House, Chicago, who, in a lecture on "Education and literature in Russia," discussed in a masterly way the factors in Russian life and civilization of the last century which had a bearing on the situation at the date of the lecture (October 18). Mr Yarros emphasized the fact that the great mass of the Russian people are illiterate peasants to whom the autocracy has denied education as a matter of policy, but he pointed out that the peasantry, illiterate though they may be, are by no means unintelligent, and, in addition to native shrewdness, possess in a high degree the moral and spiritual qualities of idealism, of simplicity and trustfulness. It is lack of education combined with unquestioning faith in the good purposes of the Czar which furnish the explanation for the loyalty shown the autocratic government almost up to the present time. However, the political education of the Russian peasant has, during the last decade, been accomplished, as the speaker showed, in a most unexpected way. From the Duma, ineffective in government but powerful as an educative agency, liberal political ideas have spread among the Russian people as a whole; thus the way has been made easy for the miraculous revolution of last March. Whether the government of Kerensky would endure and Russia become one of the world's great democracies, Mr Yarros would not venture to prophesy. The Maximalists, true to the Russian idealistic character, instead of yielding to the majority rule of democracy, were refusing in their political inexperience, to make the least concession, and this, with the continuance of the war, made the future extremely doubtful. In conclusion, Mr Yarros expressed the belief that Russia as a democracy would contribute an element of immense value to the civilization of the world; the Tolstoian spirit was needed in a world dominated in a large degree by the ideas of Nietzsche.

It was interesting to the audience of librarians to learn that Mr Yarros had, as a youth in Russia, taken active part in the dangerous work of circulating the books of a so-called underground library, consisting of works forbidden by the government to be read.

Professor W. B. Olds, accompanied by Professor D. M. Swartout of the James Milliken university on the piano, gave a most interesting talk on bird songs, illustrating the various calls by songs for which he had written the words and music. Seldom has the association enjoyed so artistic and unique an entertainment. Then followed a reception for the association given by the faculty of the university.

**General session, Friday, October 19,  
9:30 a. m.**

The report of the Legislative committee was called for. This committee reported that the following bills had been carefully prepared in accordance with the desire of the 1916 meeting. County libraries, community libraries, or libraries covering two or more townships or parts of townships; certification of librarians. After much discussion the committee decided that the question of certification was still an open one and that it was best to postpone introducing this bill. The bill for community libraries had been based somewhat on the state law for township high schools. This high school law was being contested in the courts, so the committee decided to wait until the school people had framed a satisfactory law. The county library bill was again endorsed by the committee and in addition one which should regulate control of libraries in cities and villages with commission form of government. The committee also supported a bill providing for the erection of library buildings in public parks. This bill passed. The report then gave the history of its two bills in the legislature, reporting that the Commission city bill had passed and become a law and that under it, in commission governed cities, the library trustees were to have control of all money and complete administration of the library. The county bill had not

been so fortunate and in spite of great effort on the part of the committee it was lost. It was urged that a publicity campaign be entered into before the next General Assembly to inform the people of the real library conditions and the need in Illinois for a county library law. This report was received.

Miss Parham of Bloomington then read a most entertaining paper, giving "A book symposium." She said that some one had divided readers into two classes, those who insisted that a book should teach them something and those who with equal force insisted that it should teach them nothing. She said that though she had occasional lapses and read an instructive book she should much prefer enrolling with the number who read for entertainment and inspiration. She then proceeded to eliminate from her consideration the books on agriculture, food preservation and conservation and discussed the current books on literature, poetry, fiction, and the war. She had written to a number of Illinois library people asking the names of worth-while books that they had read recently, and then summed up her answers without giving the names of the readers except by some delightful bit of characterization which gave the secret away most successfully. Some of the books mentioned were Ian Hay's *The Oppressed English*; L. R. Morris' *Celtic dawn*; Lewis' *Those About the Trench*; Ruhl, *White Nights*; Barbusse, *Under Fire*; Mackenzie, *The man who tried to be it*; Dawson, *Carry on*; Flandraw, *Cousin Julia*; Butler, *The way of all flesh*; Conrad, *Victory*; Canfield, *Understood Betsy*; Pool, *His family*; Steinmetz, *America*, and *The reveries of a schoolmaster*, by Francis B. Pearson. The last was selected as being the most delightful book that had been read during the year. There were many other books mentioned and much humorous comment on librarians and the interesting opportunities that occur for directing the reading of the public.

Mr C. B. Roden of the Chicago public library gave a most interesting talk on library service in war time. He called



attention to the present crisis as a wonderful opportunity for the library to assume its proper place as a real collecting and distributing center for all information. The preservation of all material concerning the part that each locality is taking in the war was especially important in this connection. He suggested first, that newspapers, especially those in foreign languages published in the home town, would soon be valuable; second, that a selection, if not a collection, of the various posters would have historic interest; third, that the preservation of recruiting and draft records were a duty; fourth, that the library should have on its shelves the literature of inspiration and of patriotism defending the action of the United States in the war; fifth, that all propaganda material should be accepted but should be put aside and not sorted till after the war. He spoke of the extraordinary activities of the Chicago public library in collecting all sorts of government publications and all material on conservation and relief as well as an enormous amount of material about the war. He told also of the flood of really good books that had been given in response to the appeal for the camp libraries and of the immense amount of work involved in sorting and distributing this material. This work of sorting had all been voluntary extra work on the part of the staff.

The need for books for the camp is growing and even though the million dollar fund has been secured, the need for books will remain as long as the war lasts.

The next paper was given by Miss Dorothy Blatchford of the Illinois Society for the prevention of blindness. She told of the work of the society and of the terrible consequences to the children in any community, of ignorance on this subject and made an appeal to the librarians to help in the work by being distributing centers for leaflets, posters, etc., which the society would be glad to supply.

Mrs Jane Marten Johns, the founder of the library of Decatur, spoke for a few minutes on her book, "Personal

recollections, 1849-65." Mrs Johns is one of the oldest residents of Decatur and has been a witness of many interesting events in Illinois history. She knew Lincoln and Douglas and her book is full of reminiscences of these great men. It is valuable for the history not only of Decatur but of the state.

Owing to the lack of time the report of the publicity committee was not read. Miss Barrette, chairman, reported that a definite plan of coöperation with the women's clubs has been carried out and that the clubs had held library programs and had done good publicity work in many districts. Dr Evans had mentioned the work the libraries could do in child conservation and other health work in his columns. A contest "Doctors in fiction" had been announced in PUBLIC LIBRARIES and letters had been sent to 177 libraries, asking that the contest be written up in the local papers. While very few took part in the actual contest, the publicity from these write-ups had been of service in attracting the attention of people to the library.

The following resolutions were passed by the association:

Whereas the east in its great need has seen fit to call upon the west for help, and whereas it is the policy of the Illinois library association, imbued with the true missionary spirit to aid wherever possible, therefore be it resolved, that we follow Mr Charles J. Barr and Mr Ernest J. Reece with heartfelt wishes for their success, and that the secretary be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to each.

Resolved that the secretary express to Miss Mary J. Booth, our appreciation for her courage in undertaking the strenuous work in the canteen service, and our pride that we have a representative in the field.

Resolved, that we, the members of the Illinois library association in convention assembled Oct. 17-19, 1917, express our heartfelt appreciation for the cordial welcome and continuing hospitality, accorded us by the mayor and city officials, the Library Board, the Association of Commerce, the Decatur Country Club and the James Millikin University.

We thank the librarian and her staff for their efforts, which have made this meeting possible, the local press for notices and reports and the Hotel Orlando for its many courtesies.

We desire to express our special appreciation for the work of Miss Lansden, our

president, and Miss Houchens, our secretary, who have so successfully undertaken and carried on these duties, which they were unexpectedly called upon to perform.

The year 1917 has brought immeasurable loss in the death of three active members of the Illinois library association. All three have been, at some time, officers of this association. All had given years of self-sacrificing devotion, as effective librarians, to their several communities and all had heroically continued the service, while bearing, without complaint, the added burdens of physical pain.

Miss Mary Borden Lindsay, whose whole life had been identified with untiring, unselfish devotion, to the educational activities of the state. First, as a teacher, then for many years, as librarian of the Evans-ton public library.

Mr Henry Eduard Legler, librarian of the Chicago public library, honored leader, beloved comrade, whose kindly wisdom was always ready at the demand of any who needed him and whose broad vision, irresistible enthusiasm and power of achievement are now, and must ever be, an inspiration and guide to this association.

Miss Mable Thain, for nineteen years librarian of Oak Park, whose rare appreciation, charm and grace of character crowned her ability as administrator.

Be it resolved, that the Illinois library association in convention assembled in Decatur, October 17-19, 1917, hereby give expression to their deep sorrow and sense of irreparable loss to the library profession in the death of these three, taken from their work in the midst of their careers.

The following officers were elected for the incoming year: President, Miss Jane P. Hubbell, Rockford; first vice-president, Mr E. D. Tweedel, Chicago; second vice-president, Miss Ida F. Wright, Springfield; secretary, Miss Josie B. Houchens, Urbana; treasurer, Miss Adah F. Whitcomb, Chicago.

An invitation was read from Peoria inviting the association to meet there in 1918. Miss Anna Hoover delivered a similar invitation to hold the meeting in Galesburg. The decision was referred to the Executive committee.

All business having been transacted, President Lansden declared the 1917 conference adjourned.

#### Social features

There were many delightful social events scheduled for the entertainment of the delegates. A reception given by the Library staff, Wednesday evening,

was greatly enjoyed by the people who had arrived on time. Thursday was an especially festive day, despite the fact that the auto ride had to be given up.

At four o'clock the delegates were taken on special cars to the Country club where they were most delightfully entertained at tea. That evening, following the program, the faculty of the James Milliken university held a reception in Kaeuper hall.

The University of Illinois Library School alumni association held a dinner Thursday evening. There were 40 present. Mr and Mrs Bowker, Mr Yarros, Miss Chandler, and Miss Lansden were guests of the occasion.

JOSIE B. HOUCHENS,  
Secretary.

#### Work at Camp Sherman, Ohio

Mr Burton E. Stevenson, librarian of the Public library of Chillicothe, Ohio, in his report on the library at Camp Sherman, has an interesting story to tell of the book facilities furnished in that locality for the soldiers. A condensed form of it follows:

The first detachment of engineers and guard troops for the camp arrived the last of June. Library cards were issued to those who wished to take books from the Public library of Chillicothe. The first troops were quartered in the town, but succeeding detachments went to the camp. Donations of books and magazines were called for locally and when the Y. M. C. A. went into its first building, the library turned over about 300 volumes of fiction and a big lot of magazines.

A meeting was held about this time at the State library, Columbus, to consider ways and means of meeting the situation. There were present at this meeting members of the State library commission, Mr Galbreath, Mr Dice, Miss Doren of Dayton, Mr Brett of Cleveland. Mr. Weist, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. work at the camp, and Mr Stevenson. Mr Weist announced that the Y. M. C. A. was putting up nine buildings at the camp, to be completed early in September, when the first increment of draft troops would arrive, and

which should be equipped with books and magazines as promptly as possible.

The State library commission agreed to ask the State emergency board for an appropriation of \$25,000 to carry on the work until the A. L. A. was ready to take it over. This appropriation was never granted and the expenses of the work were paid either by the Public library of Chillicothe or the traveling department of the State library. A state wide campaign for book donations was begun, all books to be shipped to the Chillicothe public library which acted as a general clearing house and got the books ready for the camp.

Mr Dice, State library organizer, spent two or three days of every week at Chillicothe supervising the technical end of the work. One assistant to write catalog and book cards and to assist in overseeing the work was furnished by Mr Stevenson. Practically all the rest of the work was done by volunteers. When the Y. M. C. A. opened its first regular building August 15, the Public library of Chillicothe installed a unit of 350 books. A few days later Miss Doren spent a day in Chillicothe on her way home from the War council meeting at Washington. She saw the branch in operation in building 71 and the other buildings nearing completion with few books coming in. Shortly thereafter a 500 book unit arrived from the Dayton library and was installed in building 74. A similar unit from the State traveling library was installed in building 70. By this time donated books had begun to flow in and there are now about 6000 books, all donations, except 500 late war books especially purchased by the traveling department of the State library.

Mr Dice has given invaluable help in starting the machinery, book cards and other necessary records. A valuable recruit came in the person of Miss Edwina F. Glenn, daughter of Major General Glenn commanding Camp Sherman, a graduate of Pratt Institute library school with a year's experience in the New York public library. She came in one day to find out if there was anything she could do to help and she has been at

work most of the time since. The technical work of getting the books ready for the camp was placed under her general direction and the answer to a call for volunteer workers has been such as to build up an experienced staff. Among them and in charge of classification is Mrs Grace Morgan Holden, also a graduate of Pratt with experience in the Cincinnati public library. These volunteers are recruited exclusively from the wives of officers stationed at the camp, many of whom welcome the opportunity to occupy their leisure with useful work of this sort.

Mr Dice is in charge of the work instructing the Y. M. C. A. men of the camp in details concerning such library work as they are capable of doing. The volunteer staff is capable of preparing about 300 books a day and has been able so far to keep up with the steady flow of donated books. A unit of at least 300 books, together with a full equipment of magazines, is always ready for each Y. M. C. A. and Knights of Columbus building as it opens. There are now 11 units and we hope to have their shelves full with first-rate books by the middle of November.

In order to prevent confusion some sort of system had to be adopted. The following are some of the points resolved upon in the conference between Miss Glenn, Mr Dice and Mr Stevenson:

Every soldier in the camp is a patron of the library.

There will be no registration list.

Time limit is one week. There are no penalties for not returning a book on time or for damage to it.

The men are given to understand that they are on their honor to take the best possible care of the books, and placards emphasize this fact.

Besides the book card, two catalog cards are written for each book, an author card and a shelf-list card. A book pocket is placed in the inside of the front cover and all books are marked with the library stamp. Each book is stamped with the number of the building to which it belongs, so that it may be returned from anywhere. Books are on

open shelves and fiction and class books are stacked separately. The books, with a few exceptions, are classified only to three figures (D. C.), with the initial of the author. Book request slips are placed in every building so as to secure data as to the class of books desired.

What most of the men want is clean absorbing-exciting fiction. All donations of books are not up to standard. The standard applied to the camp libraries should be considerably more rigid than for the ordinary public library. The Y. M. C. A. men are eager to do everything they can, but in the rush hours, it is impossible for them to look after the books. It may be possible to get from the large number of men of the camp enough volunteers with library or book store experience to help with the evening work, tho it may be hardly fair to ask the men to give up their recreation hour. Mr Stevenson says of this:

There is always some uncertainty about voluntary labor, so I believe that at least one man will have to be assigned by the A. L. A. to each branch, which means 12 or possibly 14 for this camp alone. Women will not do for this work, but I can see no reason why most of the work at the main library cannot be done by women. I would strongly urge that an effort be made to have the ruling forbidding this modified. If this is done, we here will have the beginning of a fairly competent staff to go ahead with the work when the A. L. A. takes it over. If not, I do not see where the staff is to come from. Women are employed in the post-exchanges. Why not in the main libraries, which, needless to say, will be a much more secluded and dignified place.

There is little demand for magazines more than a few months old. The men do not care for women's magazines, and all magazines which deal in salacious or suggestive fiction should be rigidly excluded. There is an insistent demand for the lighter technical magazines. Arrangement has been made to have local newspapers from all the points in Ohio and Western Pennsylvania sent to the Y. M. C. A. headquarters. There sorted and distributed to the building nearest the quarters of the men from each locality, there are now about 300 dailies, and as many weeklies and semi-weeklies. The

books which are sent are composed very largely of novels which have been published during the last few years—just such novels as are included in the A. L. A. camp book list. It will be necessary to supplement the standards and some of the less widely read current fiction by purchases, but the remainder can safely be left to donations.

#### The New Forbes Library at Northampton, Mass.

After being more or less in confusion for several months, the Forbes library reopened in September with an increased book capacity, from 125,000 to 400,000 v. It is now a library, which by the union with the Northampton public library, is the fifth largest institution opened to the general public in Massachusetts, the largest public library in a city of 20,000 inhabitants in the country and a library second to none in equipment.

During the summer many changes were made in the building—a new L. B. steel stack erected, electricity introduced, the old wooden stacks put in place upstairs, the walls retinted, the loan desk enlarged, and the floors done over. Much changing of and in the book stacks has entailed the handling several times of over 175,000 v., and an approximate weight of over 250 tons.

Over and above this purely physical labor, the books of both the Forbes and Northampton public library have been checked up (showing 30,000 duplicates) and incorporated in their proper places in the Forbes library. The platting of the location of the books of the main library in their new stack alone, was a work that required much forethought and skillful figuring in order that time and expense might be saved in moving and proper space left for additions to the books. During all this work, the branch libraries have been open as usual, the children's department in its entirety has been maintained in Memorial hall; and while the Forbes building was closed, fiction and books of current interest were also circulated from there and the reading room kept open.

The making of the new Forbes began last November when the 42,000 books of the Northampton public library were moved and stored, all in their proper places on their own shelves, on the second floor of the Forbes. This was accomplished without interrupting the service. Last February, the Forbes volumes and their wooden stacks were also moved upstairs, clearing the stack room on the ground floor for the installation of the new steel stack by the Library Bureau.

#### New features

The new stack is lighted throughout with electricity. A double switch is used so that the light can be turned off from either end of the aisle. The indirect method of lighting has been installed in the main hall. The loan desk has been lengthened 25 feet, special lighting apparatus being provided for it. The departments have been arranged for convenient, quick use. A special feature is to be a department of books published in Northampton and books by Northampton authors. The children's room will be one of the special features. Art and music are to have special departments with arrangement for quick, easy use. To make the Forbes library as serviceable as is possible has been the aim of the trustees and the library force. The joining of the two libraries, the construction of probably the largest two story steel stack in America, the rearrangement of the entire library and the careful selection of the books, the cleaning and repairing of the library plant, have been the tasks involving intelligent preparation and continuance of careful supervision. These tasks have now been well and thoroughly accomplished.

A small boy recently returned a book to the library. The librarian asked him how he liked the book. "Oh!" he said, "I just loved that book, but there was one part I just hated."

Of course, the librarian was surprised and said, "What part was that?" The boy smilingly replied, "The last page where it said, That's all."

#### The New Building at Indianapolis

The Indianapolis public library moved into its new central building the first week in October and the building was dedicated on Sunday, October 7. The Indianapolis public library is 45 years old and has grown from a few hundred books in 1872 to a collection of 205,000 now on its shelves. This is the second time it has had a new building, having been located for nearly 30 years just off the famous Circle. The plans for the present building began in 1913 and it was completed the past summer. The building complete cost \$500,800 with a site valued at \$220,000. The building is of Bedford limestone, and has a total floor space of 72,000 sq. ft. It has a stack capacity of 150,000v, on two levels of Library Bureau steel stack. Two more floor levels of stack may be added, and later by raising the stack roof, additional levels may be gained.

There is a plot of ground on three sides of the building, which will be beautified by an artistic planting of shrubs and plants, giving an attractive setting to the building. Two massive wrought iron gates close the main entrance of the building and on two bronze tablets there is the inscription, "These gates are the gift of the children of Indianapolis in loving remembrance of their friend, James Whitcomb Riley." Passing beyond the Riley gates, there is a spacious entry; to the left, a check room; to the right, a public telephone booth. A long corridor leads to the right and gives entrance to the children's room and to the auditorium. A similar corridor on the left, leads to the administration wing of the library. Directly in front is the doorway leading to the great open shelf and delivery room.

This is the *pièce de résistance* of the building. It is 100 feet in length, 45 feet in width and from floor to ceiling 45 feet in height. It is finished in Indiana white oak and Bedford stone, a beautifully decorated and spacious hall. Opposite the door, is the delivery desk and to the right and left are the great marble stair cases leading to an encircling gallery,



which holds the open shelf material and also leads to the reading and reference room on the second floor. On this floor, to the right, are the periodical, medical and art reference rooms and on the left are the general reading and general reference rooms. Indirect lighting is used, which is adequate in even the remotest corner. There is no basement to the building. The lowest floor is almost at the grade level. In addition to the locker and custodian rooms, the lower floor houses the machinery plant of the building. There are two entrances to the building, the second one leads directly to the children's room and to the auditorium. The latter is provided with a platform stage and will seat 200 persons. It is a beautiful building, attractive outside and beautiful inside.

A number of changes have been made in the staff recently. Five voluntary resignations were received and six were not reappointed. The circulating and children's departments were reorganized. Marcia M. Furnas has been made chief of the circulating department and Carrie E. Scott has been made chief of the children's department.

#### National Food Administration

The U. S. Food Administration has asked that there be loaned to the Food Administrator of each state an assistant from one of the libraries to act.

There is a library for every 200 square miles of territory in the United States, or, to put it another way, there is a library for every 6,000 inhabitants. This means that the libraries of the country should reach at least seven-tenths of the population.

To sum up, the work will function as follows: Food administration connecting with 48 state directors; 48 state directors connecting with libraries of the United States; libraries of the United States connecting with seven-tenths of the population of the United States; seven-tenths of the population of the United States connecting with allied countries across the water, through food saved as a result of conservation propaganda.

"Each locality has its food problem,"

says the Food Administration. "On Cape Cod, cranberries, herring and blueberries are the staple product. In Florida, citrus fruits, certain varieties of nut, potatoes and tomatoes. In the middle west all kinds of cereal products. In the Rocky mountain region, big game, etc. Therefore each librarian should consider herself a leader of the people of her district. It is her privilege to edit her bulletin board in such a manner as to tell people how and why conservation is essential to the success of the allied armies in the war. It is the librarian's opportunity for serving the country. He or she can use printed material as effectively as our armies will use bullets, and through constructive work therewith can help to build so quickly and effectively along the trails of destruction that they will become highways of progress."

The library of the University of Idaho has been named as the center from which the National food administration will keep in close touch with its work in that State.

Theresa J. Shier was detailed by the State library of Michigan to serve as library publicity director under the direction of George A. Prescott, State food administrator. Miss Shier is in communication with 228 public libraries in Michigan. The librarians are furnishing bibliographies, distributing as many free food conservation and production bulletins as can be obtained, posting notices on bulletin boards of material, calling attention to meatless and wheatless days and to the pledge card campaigns, etc. Libraries with auditoriums and children's rooms are arranging for talks on the necessity and method of saving. In connection with the schools and women's organizations exhibitions will be given from time to time where possible. For this purpose Miss Shier is soliciting the aid of the drawing teachers of Michigan to furnish food posters, the work of the children in all grades. In a week's time at Lansing some very interesting poster work was done, proving to be a means of education to the children as well as the public. Exhibitions of the work of the children in their special room in libraries will be given.

### The Library in the Model City Charter

The committee of librarians, appointed by the president of the A. L. A. at the request of the National Municipal League, submitted the following report at the meeting in Denver of the N. M. L.:

Education is a matter of state rather than merely local concern, and, therefore, so far as possible, the state should provide by general laws for the education of all the people of the state; and, furthermore, the public library should everywhere be regarded as a most important part of the educational machinery of the state.

Where there is no suitable state law providing for the organization and administration of a public library, it is appropriate for the city itself to provide for such organization and maintenance under general home rule provisions, by including in the city charter such library provision. It is for such cities especially, therefore, that the following draft is submitted:

#### Draft of the Library Section of the Proposed Model City Charter

Section 1. The City Commission (or the Mayor and Common Council) shall have power to establish a public library and shall appoint a board of five persons (to which board women shall be eligible) to administer the public library so established, or to administer an existing public library of the city. Each member of such a library board shall serve, without compensation, for a term of five years, one retiring each year, after having determined by lot on first appointment which shall serve for one, two, three, four, and five years respectively. A member of this board may be removed by the City Commission for neglect of duty or conduct detrimental to the best interests of the library after charges have been preferred in writing and the member has been given the opportunity of defense. Vacancies for the unexpired term of any member shall be filled by the City Commission.

Section 2. This Board shall be known as the Board of Library Commissioners (or directors or trustees) of the city of..... The board shall have the powers of a public corporation and shall have full control over the maintenance and operation of the public library of the city of....., within the limitations of this charter and the general laws of the state. It shall adopt rules, stating the general terms on which the library may be used by the public, and shall have power to enforce the same. The board

may receive gifts and bequests, acquire and transfer property, real and personal, act as trustee for the same, sue and be sued. It shall manage all libraries owned by the city and may contract with other public bodies, within and without the city, to render library service.

Section 3. Annually in the levying of taxes for municipal purposes the City Commission shall levy not less than .....mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the city, for the support and development of the public library.

Section 4. All moneys collected for the use of the library, whether by taxation or otherwise, shall be in the custody of the city treasurer and shall be paid out by him on vouchers duly attested by the board and audited by the proper city authorities.

In the case of a gift offered to the library on conditions involving the performance of certain acts annually, the board shall refer to the City Commission the matter of such gifts and its conditions, which shall be confirmed by the City Commission by ordinance in the form of a contract, before the same shall become operative.

Section 5. The library board shall appoint and promote all employees of the library for merit only, and the board shall adopt and use such measures as will in its best judgment conduce to this end. It shall have full power to dismiss any employees for stated cause, after such employee has been given the opportunity of a hearing.

Section 6. The library board shall submit to the City Commission an annual report of its work in detail, together with its receipts and expenditures, within thirty (30) days after the close of the fiscal year.

SAMUEL H. RANCK,

Librarian Grand Rapids (Michigan) public library, chairman.

J. C. DANA,

Librarian, Free public library, Newark, N. J.

DREW B. HALL,

Librarian, Public library, Somerville, Mass.

HARRISON W. CRAVER,

Director of libraries, United Engineering Societies, New York City.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,

Librarian, Public library, St. Louis, Mo.

#### N. E. A. 1918

The next annual meeting of the National education association will be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., probably the first week in July. The headquarters of the association have been moved to Washington City, D. C., 1400 Massachusetts avenue.

### The British Library Association

A meeting of the Library Association (British) was set for October 3 to 5 to be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster. The program in general dealt with the relation of the library to the other interests of the community.

At the opening session the relation of libraries to education was presented by L. Stanley Jast, deputy chief librarian, Manchester public libraries. His theme was developed from the formula of the library, "Self-development in an atmosphere of freedom" contrasted with that of the school, "Training in an atmosphere of restraint or discipline." Organized education ceases where the educational machinery terminates. The library continues as an educational force of national importance in its contacts with the whole social, political and intellectual life of the community. The recognition of the library carries with it the provision of adequate financial resources, which is impossible under the present limitation on the library rate.

The afternoon session was concerned with work for children presented by Mr John Ballinger, M. A., librarian of the National library of Wales.

The creation in the child of intellectual interests, which is furthered by a love of books is an urgent national need. Library work with children ought to be the basis of all other library work. All public libraries should have provision where children may read in attractive surroundings with the sympathetic and tactful help of trained children's librarians.

Commercial libraries formed the theme of the discussion on Thursday morning. S. A. Pitt, chief librarian of the Glasgow public libraries; Bailie Archibald Campbell, convener of the Glasgow libraries committee, and Alderman T. C. Abbott of the Manchester committee were scheduled to contribute.

The basis of the discussion was the statement that commercial libraries should be established in all the great trade centers of the kingdom as a part of the municipal library system, where business men may obtain reliable com-

mercial information by means of the collection and arrangement for rapid consultation of all Government and other publications relating to commerce. Close connection should be made between the local Boards of Trades, which should further the work of these libraries in every possible way. In the smaller towns commercial collections should be formed and a system devised by which the smaller libraries may be helped by the loan of material in the towns.

The theme for the afternoon session was Technical libraries presented by E. W. Hulme, B. A., librarian of the Patent Office library, and Mr Walter Powell, chief librarian of the Birmingham public library.

Technical libraries are as essential to technical education and to manufacture as the laboratory or the work shop. Discovery and invention are stimulated by books. Important manufacturing towns should be served with a special organization, including a trained librarian possessing also a sufficient technical knowledge to enable him to act as a medium of information to inquirers.

Municipal reference libraries followed presented by H. Keatley Moore, chairman of the Croydon libraries committee.

Collection of books and other printed manuscript matter bearing upon all questions of local government should be established in connection with all municipalities and the management of such collections should be placed under the library committee and put in charge of a trained librarian.

On Friday afternoon, Dr E. A. Baker discussed the education and training of librarians in which he held that a system of library schools for the British Isles should be established as early as possible under the control of the Library Association.

The names of many distinguished persons were listed on the program to speak to the association. Among them, The Rt. Hon. C. Addison, M. P., Minister of Reconstruction; The Rt. Hon. Viscount Bryce. The mayors and other principal magistrates of the neighborhood were expected to be present.

### Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Library Association

Portland, September 3-4, 1917

The meeting was the largest and most enthusiastic ever held by this association. There was an attendance from all of the states included in its membership—Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and from British Columbia. The meetings were inspiring and there was great enthusiasm manifested for the work of the association which contributes to the welfare of the small libraries throughout the year, and toward the possibilities of war service through libraries.

The association decided to make permanent and official the work of the Subscription Book committee which has been so important during the past year, giving all libraries immediate notice in regard to subscription books which are being sold throughout the state, with reviews of them and suggestions in regard to action by schools and libraries in the matter of the purchase of any particular book. The work of the School-Library committee was also commended, and as a result of one of the meetings, outlines for instruction in the use of books from the elementary schools through college, were made available. An excellent paper on Pacific Northwest bibliography by Charles W. Smith of the University of Washington led to the appointment of a committee to issue bibliographical notes on the literature of the Northwest. The Publicity committee had, as usual, a most interesting and valuable report to make, and plans were laid for the extension of the work of this committee, especially for urging upon the American library association a plan for general publicity work for all libraries. The report of the Committee on Extension of library service in Alaska was so interesting that it will be reprinted at an early date. It was found that there are many people in Alaska much interested in the establishment of a territorial library and traveling library service. In view of the fact that library finance is the most pressing library problem of the day, a committee of five trustees was provided for the special purpose of considering

public library finance. It was decided that the association would issue a bulletin in place of the mimeographed letters which have been sent out throughout the territory which it serves, and that this bulletin should have space devoted to the work of the different committees.

Seattle was chosen as the meeting place for 1918, and for 1919, British Columbia, inviting the Library association of California to join.

Officers were elected as follows: John B. Kaiser, librarian, Tacoma public library, president; Miss Sabra L. Nason, librarian, Umatilla County library, Pendleton, first vice-president; Miss Helen G. Stewart, librarian, Public library, Victoria, B. C., second vice-president; Miss Elizabeth Purrington, Portland public library, secretary; Charles Compton, Seattle public library, treasurer.

The special feature of the meeting, from an intellectual standpoint, was the paper on "The poetry of the war," by John Ridington, acting librarian of the University of Columbia, Vancouver, B. C. It is hoped that Mr Ridington will be able to give this talk in different libraries during the coming winter. The talk by Mrs Kidder on "Libraries and inspiration" will long be remembered by all who were privileged to hear her. Another talk which was very inspiring to the librarians who have the missionary spirit was that on "Books in the country" by Mrs C M Stites, traveling library librarian, of Mulloy, Oregon. The section at Reed college was specially pleasant as there was, in addition to an excellent meeting on libraries and schools, a pleasant luncheon hour with greetings from our neighbors in British Columbia and Hawaii. The dinner at the University club was made memorable by the talk given by Miss Helen G. Stewart, librarian of the Public library, Victoria, B. C. Miss Stewart was for a year in France doing work in canteens. Her story of the war and her personal experiences in the war region will never be forgotten. It was a most dramatic and moving account of service rendered our allies.

CORNELIA MARVIN,  
Ex-President.

### Library Meetings

**Canada**—The British Columbia library association held its fourth annual meeting in the Provincial Library, Victoria, September 18. The retiring president E. O. S. Scholefield emphasized the word "service" in the daily work of librarians. He urged every member of the association to join an organization to do some particular class of work.

Miss Helen Stewart, librarian of the Victoria public library, suggested that a committee be appointed with a view to establishing libraries and reading rooms for the Provincial military camps. A committee of which Herbert Killam of the Provincial library, as chairman, with power to add to the committee, was appointed to act in the matter. Another resolution provided for a committee composed of Miss Helen Stewart, Judge Howlay, John Hosie, E. O. S. Scholefield and R. W. Douglas to report upon the need of improved library legislation with a view to permitting library extension work in the province.

At present, there exists no machinery under which a municipality can organize on a proper basis for library work. This committee appointed will bring the matter before the next legislature. A resolution by Mr Killam was adopted providing that a committee be appointed to ascertain existing library resources on conservation and to gather future material for the use of institutions and the general public. He pointed out that the co-ordination of existing printed material on a variety of subjects would prevent duplication, make the material of more use, answer correctly questions upon different points raised and would be of immense practical value.

A committee was also appointed on book service for special needs of hospitals, prisons, etc.

Officers elected as follows:

Honorary President, Hon. J. W. deB. Farris, K. C.; President, Helen Stewart, City librarian, Victoria; vice-president, R. W. Douglas, City librarian, Vancouver; secretary, Miss Wolfender, Provincial library; treasurer, Mary Stewart, Victoria public library.

**Chicago**—At the regular monthly meeting of the Chicago library club, held at the Public library, the club voted to give \$200 to the Henry E. Legler Ambulance fund. This latter is to be raised by voluntary subscriptions in the city for an ambulance to be sent to Italy. There was an addition of 52 new members to the club.

The program for the evening was arranged in a series of round tables where technical library questions were discussed. There was a good attendance at all of them and much animated discussion. The administration section was in charge of Dr E. D. Burton; cataloging, J. M. C. Hanson; reference, E. D. Tweedell; special libraries, Mary B. Day; children's work, Adah Whitcomb; junior assistants, J. F. Phelan. After the programs the different sections gathered in the rotunda, where a social hour and light refreshments were enjoyed.

JANET M. GREEN.

**Indiana**—The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Indiana library association opened in Fort Wayne, Wednesday afternoon, October 17, 1917, in the assembly room of the Fort Wayne public library with 130 members attending. The address of welcome was made by Mr W. H. Shambaugh, the treasurer of the Fort Wayne school board.

The president, Miss Snipes of Plainfield, followed with her address in which she told something of the work of the Indiana library association in the past. The association was born of a deeply felt need in 1891 and has promoted the continual growth, advancement and improvement of library conditions ever since, numbering among its projects the creation of the Public library commission, the plan for dividing the state into districts, the appointment of committees to investigate the salaries, qualification and certification of librarians throughout the state, the appointment of the Library War Council of Indiana. Miss Snipes felt that while the association had come together with the same feeling of fellowship and with the same high ideals, there was a more serious purpose



behind them for the influence of the library in this new capacity for war service cannot be overestimated. The president advocated a systematic membership campaign. She thought that it was the duty of every library in the state to join as an institution as well as individually in order that the association might reflect the spirit of the librarians and of the times.

R. R. Bowker, editor of *Library Journal*, then gave a most delightful talk before the association on "Library and literary folk of the past generation." He gave a series of delightful reminiscences, full of pathos and humor, of people prominent in literary and library circles of the past. He carried his listeners with him to the first meeting of librarians held in 1853 which was the forerunner of the American library association, although the latter was not organized until 1876. The first A. L. A. meeting was attended by one hundred men and three ladies, who were so timid that they made Dr Poole their spokesman and he continued in this capacity for some time. Mr Bowker told of the plan of Melvil Dewey in 1886 to organize a library school to which women might be admitted, which so startled the trustees that the school was not opened until January, 1887. The first class included Miss Mary W. Plummer. He brought Charles A. Cutter before his audience not only as one of the ablest and most learned librarians of the times, but as the best dancer and the most talented amateur actor in the American library association. Mr Bowker paid a tribute to the women pioneers of the library profession, among them Mrs Minerva Sanders, known to all as "Mawtucket of Pawtucket," who started two great movements, the incorporation of separate children's rooms in libraries, and open shelves.

In a business meeting which was held at the close of Mr Bowker's address, Mr Bailey, of Gary, gave a report of the work of the Indiana Library War Council. Although, at the time, Mr Bailey had only heard from 85 of the 160 towns in the state, he felt that he

could safely promise more than \$45,000 toward the \$1,000,000 book fund. Of the 85 towns reporting 52 had made or exceeded their quota.

The second session of the association was held in the ball room of the Hotel Anthony. Mr. Sanborn of the Indiana public library commission began the program with a very inspiring and stimulating talk on library war service and was followed by Mr V. S. Yarros, of Hull House, Chicago, who presented an intensely interesting and lucid explanation of the present situation in Russia under the title "Revolution and evolution in Russia." Mr Yarros described the typical qualities of the Russian classes and traced their development through the ages.

The round tables were held Thursday morning, October 18. The small libraries round table was presided over by Miss Snipes of Plainfield. Mrs Clodia Scott, of Worthington, gave an interesting talk on the "Library assembly room as a social centre," and Miss Joanna O'Connell, of Winamac, gave some valuable "Methods of securing library coöperation outside the schools."

Under the leadership of Miss Torrance of the Muncie public library in the College and Reference round table, Miss Leila Wilcox, of Franklin, discussed "The coöperation between college and public library"; Miss Sue Beck, of Crawfordsville, "The public library in the college community," and Miss Florence Venn, of the Indiana state library, "What the state library can do for both types of libraries." Miss Sturgis, of Fort Wayne, told of some new and important reference books.

The Trustees' round-table had an able leader in Mrs W. H. Eichhorn, of Bluffton, and the topics discussed were The library board meeting, Buying for libraries, The library board and the staff, Equipment of libraries, The library trustee and the community.

At 11 o'clock a general session was held and the members of the association were fortunate in hearing Charles E. Rush of the Indianapolis public library discuss the ways and means of reaching

business men. Mr Rush told of his work along this line in Des Moines and was able to give a number of practical suggestions which were the outgrowth of his own personal experience.

The fourth session was given over to a discussion of pictures and their use, the use of lanterns, stereoscopes and stereographs. As an interesting supplement to this session, there was an exhibit of pictures of all descriptions, contributed by a number of libraries throughout the state.

The final session of the meeting was held in the assembly room of the library at 8 p. m., when Miss Lutie E. Stearns, of Wisconsin, gave a most profitable and entertaining talk on the "Library's place in the ideal democracy."

The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: Miss Annette Clark, New Albany, president; Mr Frederick G. Melcher, Indianapolis, vice-president; Miss Carrie Scott, Indianapolis, secretary; Miss Olive Brumbaugh, Frankfort, treasurer.

CERENE OHR,  
Secretary.

**Kansas**—The seventeenth annual meeting of the Kansas library association was held at Emporia, October 23-25. The first session was called to order on Monday afternoon when welcome was extended by Pres. Thomas W. Butcher of the Kansas State normal school, Mrs W. H. Kerr of the College of Emporia, and L. A. Lowther, superintendent of education. The prevailing note of the addresses was the recognition of the librarian as holding a coordinate rank among educators. The members then repaired to the Kellogg library which had thrown open all its departments for inspection. Through the courtesy of the Normal school, supper was served in the reading room by the department of home economics. At 8:15, following a musical program rendered by members of the faculty of the Normal school, Dr Arthur E. Bostwick of St. Louis delivered an address on "Luck in the library." An analysis of the meaning of luck, to which men from Napoleon down have attached so much importance, discovers that it is

generally a term to cover unconsidered causes. It remains for the librarian to discover the reasons for the customary success of library workers whom we might be tempted to dismiss as merely "lucky" in their undertakings.

Wednesday morning, the association met in the chapel of the College of Emporia for its regular business session. Following this was an address by Dr Bostwick on "Libraries and the war." Important as is the work of supplying books to the soldiers, it is **secondary** to the duty of libraries to collect and preserve material relating to the war. Especially should everything in print that reflects the local feelings and activities be preserved, not neglecting matter because it is of a treasonable nature. Miss Ada McCarthy in a talk on "Wasteful economy" showed how much is lost by buying in small quantities and at the last moment. Mr Kerr reported on his work at Camp Funston, calling attention to the great demand for books and the wide range of tastes revealed. Luncheon was served in the new dining hall by the Domestic Science department of the college. The members were then entertained by the Music department. Later they were taken about the city in automobiles supplied by the Chamber of Commerce. In the evening, after an inspection of the High School library, they listened to an address by Hon. Charles F. Scott, of Iola, on "Why we are at war."

The Thursday morning session was taken up with business. Pittsburg was chosen as the meeting place for next year. Julius Lucht of Wichita was elected president, and Truman R. Temple of Leavenworth was reelected secretary.

T. R. P.

**Michigan**—The annual meeting of the Michigan library association was held in Sault Ste. Marie, July 24-26 with a large attendance. Nina K. Preston in her report for the work of the library visitor showed that the work of the visitor was much more effective and results more easily obtained and permanent when the visitor is followed by an organizer.

Mr Ranck offered the suggestion that

the Teacher's pension law passed by the 1917 Legislature be amended to include librarians. The University of Michigan library assists the extension work of the university for communities with limited library facilities. Dr A. E. Bostwick explained what the A. L. A. war committee is trying to do in a very inspiring way. The secretary of the Y. M. C. A. spoke of the long preparations which Y. M. C. A. workers have had for emergencies such as the present and urged the libraries not to duplicate their work any more than was absolutely necessary.

An address was made by Ex-Governor C. S. Osborn on a recent trip to South America. It was most entertaining. Mr Ranck gave a stereopticon talk on county libraries. A discussion on the standardization of library service was held and the following subjects were discussed: Hours of service, vacations, government and support of libraries, length of service and training, apprentice classes, budgets, salaries, etc. These talks were based on the actual conditions existing in Michigan and were most profitably discussed. The social features were most delightful. The absence of rush gave everyone a chance to meet and visit.

Dr Arthur E. Bostwick at the evening session gave an address "Luck in the library," which defined, is that thing in any people which makes for efficiency and adapts them to their jobs. His talk was stimulating and worth while. A round table for book discussion was most helpful and reminded everyone that books are still a part of library work.

The following officers were elected:

President, F. L. D. Goodrich, University library, Ann Arbor; first vice-president, Alma Olsen, Peter White library, Marquette; second vice-president, Fanny Ball, Central high school library, Grand Rapids; secretary, Lucy L. Morgan, Public library, Detroit; treasurer, Elizabeth Pomeroy, Public library, Armada.

**Minnesota** — The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota library association was held at the St. Paul public library, October 8-10. The first session, with an attendance of 130, opened with a

dinner (see p. 435). The second session on Tuesday morning opened with a paper by Harriett W. Sewall of the University Farm school containing a reading list of practical books on agriculture that should be found in all public libraries, also some that were not suitable for Minnesota and should not be purchased. She called attention to the bulletin issued by the Farm school containing a reading list of 50 books, also to the fact that state bulletins are sent on request.

Dr Solon Buck spoke of the importance of preserving all records of local history in connection with the war, which will be very valuable to future historians. He advised that the libraries advertise the fact that these collections are being made. They should be arranged systematically. He gave the outline of the subjects file used by the Historical society.

Bessie Scripture, librarian of the East high school, Minneapolis, told of the effective work that was being done in the high schools of Minnesota under trained librarians. The State has prepared lists and manuals of the school work which are available and useful to small public libraries.

Miss Clara Fanning of the Minneapolis public library said it is the duty of the librarians not only to read every book possible on the war, but make the public read them. War books may be horrible reading, but they should be placed on the open shelves to do their share in preaching the duty of America. A comprehensive list of the best war books of 1917 was distributed.

On Tuesday evening, Mr Sonntag from Fort Snelling gave an informal talk on soldiers' reading. He referred to the change in their lives saying that cut off from social intercourse they become lonely. The library must be able to direct their study and reading and must constitute a definite influence for good. The soldier of to-day will be the civilian of tomorrow.

Henry N. Sanborn, secretary of the Indiana public library commission, gave an address on Librarians and the war. He said in part:

"The war is giving librarians an opportunity of finding out just where they stand. What does the public really think of us? Are librarians leaders or followers? Can librarians ever be leaders? In the sense of being initiators of thought and action, public libraries as institutions can never be and never should be leaders, but a librarian must keep ahead of the procession. He must know what is coming and be prepared to meet every honest movement to aid the economic, spiritual or social advance of mankind."

Libraries should have literature on both sides of the war, but at present it is wise to suppress literature of pro-German nature. Different organizations undertaking war-work are uninformed as to the assistance librarians can give. The publicity gained by rendering service now will bring in new issues. Librarians in small towns must remember that they are probably the only persons who can render the peculiar service of their profession and not neglect that service to do things other women can do as well.

A moving picture film showing the working of county libraries in California was next given and was most interesting.

Resolutions of appreciation of the officers and hosts of the various sections and the courtesies received were unanimously adopted.

A very welcome visitor was Mrs Helen J. McCaine, one of the earliest members of the Minnesota library association.

Dr Dawson Johnson offered the following resolution:

The Minnesota library association desires to express the keen sorrow of its members at the death of Henry E. Legler. One of the most eminent of American librarians, one of the most lovable of men, an able representative of western democracy, an embodiment of the best literary culture, his death is a loss not only to the city whose librarian he was, but to the profession to which he was devoted and to the country which he had adopted and has served so faithfully in so many ways.

The resolution was adopted and ordered placed on the minutes and the secretary instructed to forward a copy to Mrs Legler.

The following officers were elected:

President, Dorothy Hurlbert, Hibbing; first vice-president, Flora Carr, Mankato; second vice-president, Dr S. J. Buck, State Historical society; secretary-treasurer, Ruth Rosholt, Minneapolis.

BELLE M. OWENS,  
Secretary.

**Minnesota**—The annual Fall dinner of the Twin City library club was held October 8, at St Paul. The occasion was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Minnesota library association and a special effort was made in the celebration. Dr M. L. Burton, president of the University of Minnesota, made a strong appeal for whole hearted patriotism. Messages from the early founders of the association were as follows: Dr J. K. Hasmer, Dr W. W. Folwell, Mrs Margaret Evans Huntington and President C. H. Cooper.

Miss Countryman gave the address of the evening "Whence and whither of Minnesota librarianship." She reviewed the work that had been accomplished in the 25 years of the association's existence.

The following officers were elected for the year: President, Miss Belle Owens, St. Paul public library; vice-president, Miss Ruth Rosholt, Minneapolis public library; secretary-treasurer, Miss Amy Cowley, Minnesota library commission.

**Missouri**—The eighteenth annual conference of the Missouri library association was held in Jefferson City, October 17-19, 1917. The first session was called to order by the president, Mr Ward H. Edwards of William Jewell college, Liberty, on Wednesday afternoon, and was devoted to business reports. At its close, members were taken for an enjoyable tour of the city and surrounding hills by autos.

In the evening, the mayor of Jefferson City and the president of the Jefferson City library board made brief addresses, welcoming the association to the city, Mr Blackwelder of St. Louis responding for the association. The members then adjourned to the Executive mansion, to be guests at a very pleasant and informal reception by Governor and Mrs Gardner.

The Thursday morning session was devoted to a discussion of "Missouri libraries and the war." Dr Bostwick of St. Louis read an interesting paper on "Libraries and national service," pointing out that the effort to provide books for soldiers, while most strongly appealing to our interest and enthusiasm, is but one of the ways in which libraries may render national service. It is the duty of the library, at all times, to watch for and preserve all records in any way relating to local activities; and this duty becomes especially great during war times. It is not only local newspapers, but hand-bills, banquet menus and similar ephemeral material which furnish an index to the sentiment and temper of the community. It is these things which the historian will be seeking 50 or 100 years hence, and the library must see that he finds them ready at hand. The necessity for this form of service must not be overlooked in the more popular task of providing books for soldiers.

A general discussion on war library service followed.

Miss Irene Blair of Sedalia, Mo., described a method which her library is undertaking, of keeping a very full record of all Sedalia and Pettis County men who have entered the service. A card is sent to each man to be filled out and returned. The data includes place and date of birth, marriage, organization and date of enlistment, etc., and will be added to and kept up to date as the war goes on. From a volunteer committee of local residents, three persons are assigned to each soldier or sailor, to write him at regular intervals and keep in touch with his activities. At the close of the war, these records will be used as a basis for a book of biographical records of Pettis County men in the war.

The Thursday afternoon session began with a program on "Library co-ordination for Missouri," arranged by Miss Wales of the State library commission, Mr Glenn, of the Missouri Council of Defence, spoke briefly on food conservation. Tax Commissioner Roach outlined the theory of assessments, and told how the practice has arisen of assessing prop-

erty below its actual value. He described the movement now under way to assess property at its actual value. This will materially lower the tax rate of the state, and still have a larger margin than heretofore for libraries and educational purposes. Miss Wales emphasized the importance of this subject to the librarians of the state, and pointed out that this is an opportune time to urge action for public libraries in those communities which offer ground at all promising.

There followed reports of the work and organization of a number of local library clubs, and a discussion on co-operation among neighboring libraries.

The second part of the afternoon's program was devoted to consideration of a County library law for Missouri. A letter from Purd B. Wright of Kansas City was read, stating that it is imperative that all Missouri librarians give the next attempt to secure a county law energetic support. Harold L. Wheeler of the School of Mines and Metallurgy at Rolla discussed "Why a county library law," showing, from personal observation, that the people in rural communities want reading matter, but have no way of getting it. The county system was compared briefly with the local and state commission systems, emphasis being laid on the fact that the proposed law does not require a library in any community, but merely provides an opportunity which is lacking under the present law. In 27 South Central Missouri, or "Ozark" counties, embracing one-fourth the area of the state, more than 90 per cent of the population are in communities of less than 1,000 inhabitants, their only hope of library service being in the county system. There was general discussion.

Mr Shoemaker gave an extremely interesting account of "Missouri's struggle for statehood, 1817-1821," and mentioned a few ways in which libraries could help celebrate the centennial.

The Thursday evening session was devoted to an illustrated description by Mr Theodore Wesley Koch, of the Library of Congress, of his experiences in London, last winter, in his attempt to secure



the release of thousands of sacks of German periodical mail, consigned to American libraries, but detained by the British censors. An informal reception by the staff of the Jefferson City public library followed.

At the last session, Friday morning, Mr Koch read a paper on "The problem of commercial and technical libraries in Great Britain." Under the direction of Mr Cunningham of St. Joseph there was a discussion on Library publicity, Miss Alice R. Gladdin of Carthage telling of "The dear public" and methods of reaching them, Miss MacLachlan of Hannibal outlining her methods of "Extending the usefulness of the public library," and Miss Blair of Sedalia mentioning the advantage of "Advertising the library in the schools."

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mary E. Baker, University of Missouri library, Columbia; first vice-president, Agnes F. Greer, Public library, Kansas City; second vice-president, Mary L. Reichert, Public library, St. Joseph; secretary, Harold L. Wheeler, School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla; treasurer, Irving R. Bundy, State normal school, Kirksville.

It was unanimously voted to accept the invitation of the Kansas City public library to hold the 1918 meeting in Kansas City.

**New York**—The regular meeting of New York High School librarians association was held Oct. 10 at Washington Irving high school.

Miss Annie Carroll Moore gave a most interesting talk on the *Patriotism* list recently compiled.

ELIZABETH B. MCKNIGHT,  
Secretary.

**Ohio**—The twenty-third annual convention of the O. L. A. was held in Toledo, October 16-18. A number of the leading librarians of the state were absent on account of war conditions, but the registration showed 200 in attendance. The convention was opened with a few words of greeting by the president, Miss Alice S. Tyler of the Western Reserve library school and an address of welcome by Mr Hirshberg. In the ab-

sence of Mr Wheeler, the first vice-president, who is the librarian of the training camp in Alabama, Miss Steele of Lorain gave the response for the association. She congratulated Toledo on its unique experience in sending forth a whole system of branch libraries at once, "Athena-like, fully armed and equipped."

The president's address "Conserving national ideals" struck the keynote of the convention, the call to national service and the library's place in that service. To build on the foundation of our fathers' the larger structure and higher ideals of service is the task before our educational institutions. The library must find its true part in this task.

The address of Victor S. Yarros of Hull House, Chicago, on the Spirit and Message of the Russian revolution was of great interest. He gave an illuminating account of the causes leading up to the revolution, most of which he found in the nature of the people themselves and in their conditions. Naturally a peace-loving people intensely individualistic, they have lived under a superimposed autocracy, whose head was the Czar long looked upon as their "little father." The present revolution is a phase of a long struggle for freedom. It is to be hoped that it is the final step.

R. R. Bowker, editor of the *Library Journal*, gave the address of the evening on The library spirit, national and international. He defined the library spirit as one of service with a tendency in modern times to emphasize, not the book, but the people. Giving a brief outline of library history, he mentioned some salient points in the library work and methods of various countries. In 1914 a great book exposition at Leipsic emphasized the unity of the world. Nothing could be more sad than the contrast in reality of the present day.

The first two sessions were held in the beautiful art museum of Toledo whose fine collections were thoroughly enjoyed in the intervals between sessions. Director G. W. Stevens of the museum delighted the audience with a talk on art and the community declaring that art antedated the bookish people by fifty

thousand years. He accounted for the small knowledge of art by the fact that anything that is not used can easily be lost. Art was not used for a long period in America and so it was lost. The high cost of stupidity in art is illustrated by the millions of dollars lost in making inartistic homes; by the inexpensive public improvements which so often have to be rebuilt at enormous cost. Through the study of art by the children today, there is hope that the world will find again what it has lost.

The business of the convention occupied the time on Wednesday morning. Mr Antrim of Van Wert recounted the history of the county library law campaign, which was so nearly successful and which he said would reappear again in due time. A plea that the members should invest freely in Liberty Loan bonds was answered by the association showing its loyalty and voting to appropriate from its treasury a sum for the purchase of a Liberty bond, this to be turned over to the A. L. A. as a part of the Ohio contribution to the million dollar fund for camp libraries.

Miss Sargent-Smith reported on the splendid coöperation between the Women's clubs and the libraries of the state.

Miss Frances Cleveland of Mentor reported on the library extension committee, giving an account of the successful meetings in the six districts of the state. C. P. P. Vitz of Cleveland presented a paper on Ohio books for Ohio librarians, showing careful research and knowledge of the books reviewed. This paper will be published as a valuable bibliography of Ohio and Ohio writers.

The various library schools represented had an opportunity for re-unions at a luncheon prepared and served for the members of the O. L. A. by local friends. An automobile ride in the afternoon through the courtesy of the Toledo Commerce club gave opportunity to visit the five new branches of the Toledo public library. The buildings were much admired as a monument to the public spirit of the city and its appreciation of the library as a necessary

part of municipal equipment.

The address on Wednesday evening was by Allen T. Burns on "The library education for spare time," beginning with the parody "Now abideth war, labor and thought, but the greatest of these is thought." Mr Burns declared the most important event of modern times is the increase of spare time. This has been brought about by the eight hour law, by the Federal child labor law, by the nine hour law for women and other similar legislation. Training for the use of leisure is the next big question. The biggest possibility for spare time is reading and that is the field the library should occupy.

War service of American libraries was urged by Mr Brett of Cleveland. An interesting letter from B. E. Stevenson on the needs of the soldiers at Camp Sherman was read by Mr Dice. Mr Galbreath State librarian, offered the help of that institution in any way possible in securing and distributing books for the soldiers. A report by Miss Cochran of the Cleveland public library on the state institution libraries embodied a detailed account of conditions with recommendation for better library service for the state institutions. The committee on standardization of library service was not prepared to report fully, but a note was sent in by the chairman, Miss Doren, for consideration. Two outstanding features are: first, standardization of libraries according to income, population served and lines of work. Second, standardization of library service as indicated by the personnel of the library staff in respect to educational qualifications, technical training and experience, salary, library hours, vacation privileges, etc.

Miss Comings of the Cleveland art museum reported on the work of the traveling art club and its plan of loaning collections of pictures. She urged all libraries that can do so, to contribute to this work, which is coöperative.

The following officers were elected: President, Herbert S. Hirshberg of Toledo; first vice-president, Sophie M.

Collman of Cincinnati; second vice-president, Blanche C. Roberts, Columbus; third vice-president, Mary P. Martin, Canton; secretary, Louise A. Hawley, Milan; treasurer, Mary R. Cochran, Cleveland.

W. W. Bishop, librarian of the Michigan state university, congratulated the association on the interest shown by each in the work of all. He said the difference between American libraries and European is the same as between the librarian and a business man. If any librarian has done anything particularly fine, he wants to tell every other librarian about it.

#### College section

The recognition of the library staff as members of the college faculty was presented by A. S. Root of Oberlin. An interesting discussion followed. It was decided to secure a place on next year's general program for a paper on this subject. It was urged that the librarians of Ohio meet with the Ohio college association at their annual meetings. Officers for the ensuing year are: Gertrude Kellcott, of Ohio State University, chairman; Annette P. Ward of Oberlin, secretary.

#### Small library section

In the small library section Miss Steele had prepared an interesting program. The most striking part of this was the story of Miss Long of Van Wert when she told of the pumpkin contest arranged for the boys and girls at the opening of the children's rooms in the Brumback library. The librarian distributed seeds and the pumpkins grown from them were displayed at the County Fair. Booklets were distributed with pumpkin decorations, explaining the contest and giving hints to planters and a short list of books.

Miss Miller of Massillon told of a campaign for library funds in that city, which resulted in a large sum for the library.

The Trustees' section was presided over by Mrs T. H. Bushnell of East Cleveland with an informal discussion of the trustees' problems.

Mr H. B. Sohn of the publicity committee, said that the work assigned had been largely merged in the campaign for camp libraries. He thought that a larger place for the library in public esteem had been gained by this than could have been gained by years of ordinary publicity.

The report of Mr Dice, State library organizer, showed a fine condition prevailing throughout the state. There were 77 library visits and 51 libraries organized. Effective coöperation was maintained with the women's clubs. But three Carnegie libraries in Ohio have failed to live up to their contracts. Six district meetings were held with a total attendance of 220. The reduction of funds will cause some retrenchment but the appropriation for the conduct of a summer school for two years is an important event. Mr Dice is library publicity director for Ohio under the National Council of Defense and urges coöperation of all libraries in the work.

The address of the afternoon was given by Annie C. Moore of New York City. Miss Moore read with great acceptance Whitman's poem, beginning "Rise, O days." To the question should childhood be kept out of war, Miss Moore urged the right of children to be in touch with all the great things of the day. Impressions children get from books, often come out in their character years afterward. The effect of books and surroundings are lasting. It is, therefore, important that the books be of the right sort and the surroundings as beautiful as may be.

The book symposium closed the program. Miss Louise Prouty reviewed letters of Richard Watson Gilder—a fine type of American citizen with an infinite capacity for work. Sophie Collman reviewed Margaret Sherwood's Familiar ways—delightful essays on humble everyday subjects. Mrs J. S. Harron characterized Dixon Scott's Men of letters as "adventures in criticism," his delineation of character being clever and truthful, but one-sided. Lucy E. Keeler reviewed M. Jusserand's "Americans of the past and present days," bringing to light many interesting incidents of Wash-

ington, Lincoln and others with a timely bearing on the present sympathetic association with France.

### Camp Libraries

The following are camp libraries, the changes made and additional assignments for service at camp libraries which have been made subsequent to the date of the list in the November PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

#### National Army camps

Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. Asa C. Tilton.

Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J. Harold Brigham, assistant in Trenton, N. J., public library.

Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga. Albert R. Nichols, of the Providence public library.

Camp Upton, Yaphank, L. I. Frank L. Tolman, of the N. Y. state library.

Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky. Raymond J. McCoy, of the Cincinnati public library.

Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C. Morrill Josselyn.

Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill. Raymond L. Walkley, of the Minneapolis public library. James C. Barbee, formerly of Chicago public library.

Camp Funston, Ft. Riley, Kans. W. H. Kerr, of the Kansas State Normal school library. H. V. Clayton, of the Kansas State library.

Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark. Paul Blackwelder, of the St. Louis public library. Eric Janssen, of the St. Louis public library.

Camp Travis, San Antonio, Tex. J. F. Marron, of the public library, Duquesne, Pa.

Camp Lewis, American Lake, Wash. Edward E. Ruby, of Whitman college, Walla Walla, Wash.

#### National Guard camps

Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C. F. L. D. Goodrich, of the University of Michigan library.

Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C. George B. Champlin, assistant reference librarian, N. Y. state library.

Camp Logan, Houston, Tex. Malcolm G. Wyer, of the University of Nebraska library.

Camp Bowie, Ft. Worth, Tex. George F. Strong, of the Adelbert College library, Western Reserve University (formerly at Beauregard)

Camp Kearney, Linda Vista, Cal. J. H. Quire, of the California state library.

Camp Hancock, Augusta, Ga. Robert P. Bliss, of the Pennsylvania state library commission.

Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga. Adam Strohm, of the Detroit public library. Frederick Goodell, of the Stromfoltz-Lovely Real Estate Co., Detroit.

### Naval camps

Great Lakes Naval training station, John F. Phelan, of the Chicago public library.

Operations in organization of camp libraries

**Buildings**—At most of the cantonments the buildings are complete. Several have been delayed by the inability to secure materials.

**Equipment**—The shelving and furniture ordered from the Library Bureau is ready and being shipped. The chairs ordered of Heywood are only in part ready and will be shipped in installments as manufactured. There will likely be some delay in delivery of all material owing to the congestion of freight.

**Service**—1—Organizers have two months resident service. This service is given by men lent by their library trustees—the camps meeting the expense. Already several men of high grade have been secured.

2—Permanent camp librarian—compensation in addition to subsistence. The amount set at present is \$1200.

3—A paid assistant also provided with subsistence.

4—Some provision for special service by day or hour.

5—Some provision for expense of local volunteers.

6—Provision for the care and administration of the buildings.

7—Provision for delivery service through a Ford runabout or truck. Uniforms are being supplied for the two permanent men of the staff—badges for the other.

In all these matters every allowance has to be multiplied by 31 to cover the main system and there will be considerable administrative expense at minor points everywhere.

**Additional men are needed.** There is a lack of sufficient number of availables for camp librarians and assistants. Suggestions and application of additional men will be welcome.

Women are not available according to the rules of the War department. They are in certain localities, however, informally permitted to do volunteer work in connection with the library where the camp is adjacent to a town, residents of

the town volunteering are being utilized. Those desiring to proffer such services have only to communicate with the camp librarian.

**Books**—The first purchase of books was merely experimental. Others will follow rapidly. An unexpected demand has arisen for reference books and a wide range of technical books and serious reading generally.

The book campaign should be resumed and pushed. This can be most effectively done through the state and local agencies.

HERBERT PUTNAM,  
General Director.

### Interesting Things in Print

The August number of the *Ontario Library Review* contains a list of 1100 approved books for boys and girls.

The Boston Book Company has issued a second edition revised and enlarged of Twentieth Century drama, English—Irish—American—prepared by Florence Elizabeth Foshay. 35 cents net.

A recent book entitled "News Writing" has just been issued (D. C. Heath & Co.) by Prof. M. Lyle Spencer, who is an experienced and successful newspaper man as well as a college professor of English. His book deals with gathering, handling and writing news stories with definite and explicit directions for each department.

The October number of the *Book Bulletin*, Chicago public library, contains a chronological index of Chicago wild flowers, recording no less than 439 separate specimens. The Forestry class of the Chicago Woman's club has kept in the south corridor of the fourth floor of the Chicago public library throughout the seasons, a collection of wild flowers, plants and shrubs, which has elicited much public interest and appreciation.

The public library of Detroit has undertaken the publication of a little bulletin *Library Service* to be published fortnightly and distributed free to keep the public informed about the library. It tells how the people of Detroit can help with the War Service libraries, suggests interesting books, and gives a di-

rectory of branches and library authorities in Detroit.

A glossary of aviation terms compiled by Lieutenant Victor W. Page, U. S. A., and Lieutenant Paul Montanol, F. F. C., has been issued by the N. W. Henley Publishing Co. of New York. It contains lists of aviation terms alphabetically arranged with illustrations showing the parts named. English and French names are given in parallel columns, making the book useful for both classes of aviators. Price \$1.

The St. Paul public library has issued on cream colored pocket sized slips lists of books timely in character and interesting to the general public. Some of the titles are—Recent translations from Russian, New verse, Needle work, Contemporary Irish literature, Machinery, Winter sports, Winter travel, Photography, Japan, Books for new citizens, Wood work, Dog stories, Recent plays, South America, Cheerful stories, Sea stories, Narratives of the European war, Detective and mystery stories, Mexico, Immigration, Handicraft, Russia, America seen by foreigners.

It will be welcome news to librarians that there is to be a new edition of Granger's Index to Poetry and Recitations. There will be a total of 463 volumes indexed, which is an addition of 215 volumes not contained in the old edition and there are 121 out of print items and pamphlets omitted from the new edition. The approximate number of titles indexed is 48,500. The new edition will follow the general arrangement of the original work.

The *Woman's City Club Bulletin* is published the first of each month by the Woman's City club of Chicago. It contains a leading article by representative sociologists or economists of the city; reports of the activity of the various committees of the club, and a program of the club. It is particularly valuable at election time both for advice concerning candidates and for information on proposition ballots. It is free to members of the Woman's City club. Subscription to non-members, \$1 a year.



### Library Schools

#### California state library

The Library school boasts of a war bride in Mrs Clara Murray Blood, New York public library school, '13. On October 27, Miss Murray was married to Lieut. Charles Blood, who stopped in Sacramento on his way to Linda Vista, having been transferred there from Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Mrs Blood will continue her work as instructor and reviser in the library school.

J. C. Whitman, chief examiner of the State Civil Service commission spoke to the class on the development of civil service and the work of the commission in California, particularly in its connection with the state library. His talk brought out the point that whereas civil service had been adopted to do away with the spoils system, its present tendency is to secure the most efficient worker for the position.

The work of the fifth year of the library school is well under way. One of the courses in which the students are particularly interested is the study of California conditions, conducted by Miss Eudora Garoutte, head of the California department. In this course, a resumé of California history serves as foundation, with later work on California resources and geography, and a study of California writers as the conclusion. While some of the subject is covered by lectures, most of it is developed by student talks, each student being assigned a specific topic or character to look up and report upon in a 10 or 15 minute talk before the class. From time to time, university professors and other authorities upon California topics come to Sacramento to address the students along these lines. Throughout the state there is a great interest in local history and conditions, and the graduates find their work in this course of the utmost value when they go out into actual service.

#### Carnegie library school

A reception was given at the house of the Director, Friday evening, November 26, by the faculty of the school to meet the entering class.

Miss Sarah B. Askew, organizer, New

Jersey library commission, lectured before the school, October 19, on the New Jersey library commission and October 20 on "Some experiences of an organizer."

Miss Annie Carroll Moore, on October 27, lectured to the school on the work of the children's department, New York public library.

Miss Ernestine Rose spent October 19 and 20 in New York, where she gave two lectures before the library school of the New York public library on "Library work with foreigners."

Anna M. Anderson, '14, has resigned as children's librarian in the Clinton (Iowa) public library, to accept a position in the Seattle public library.

Ruth L. Carlisle, '12, was married in September to Norman Coy Hill. Present address, Indian Head, Md.

Mary W. Eccles, '17, has accepted a position in the children's department of the Cincinnati public library.

Gertrude M. Edwards, '13, has been appointed Kindergarten director, Public schools, Billings, Mont.

Mary E. Fuller, '15, has been appointed children's librarian, in the Detroit public library.

Lura F. Heilman, '13, is librarian of the Wheeler branch, Public Library, Evansville, Ind.

Annie M. Murray, '10, has resigned her position in the New York public library. Her present address is Jefferson Barracks, Mo. c/o C. H. Murray, U. S. A.

Mary Oxley, '14, has resigned as children's librarian in the Cedar Rapids public library. Her present address is 1121 N. Broadway, Seattle, Wash.

Carrie E. Scott, '08, has resigned as state organizer of the Indiana public library commission to become head of the children's department of the Indianapolis public library.

Dorothea Thomas, '09, has been appointed librarian of the Farmer's Loan and Trust Co., New York City.

Marion A. Warren, '17, was married in September to Philip D. Wesson.

SARAH C. N. BOGLE,  
Principal.

#### Drexel institute

The Library school alumnae association was among the first to buy a Liberty Bond—\$100, June 13. On account of the many patriotic activities of the members of the association, it was voted to discontinue monthly luncheons for the duration of the war. The

annual business meeting was held November 22.

Edythe M. Bache, Drexel '01, has been appointed head of the cataloging department of the Free library of Philadelphia.

Elizabeth W. Steptoe, Drexel '14, has been appointed index and catalog clerk of the Civilian personnel division of the Bureau of Ordnance, War department, Washington.

Rebecca N. Lingenfelter, Drexel '14, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

#### New York state library

The New York State Library School association has shown further evidence of its continued active interest in the school by appointing as alumni lecturer for the current year, Mr W. R. Eastman who began a course on library buildings on October 30.

The students taking the library extension course are organizing the Millerton Union high school and Public library. The library has about 1,500 volumes and offers an unusually good problem in organization. Miss Caroline Webster is directing the work.

In spite of the present difficulties of ocean travel, the school has three students from across the water. Miss Elisa Jebesen and Miss Julie Rummelhoff came from Norway and are taking full junior work. Mr T. C. Tai, librarian of Tsing Hua college, Peking, China, has been given advanced standing and hopes to complete the course this year.

The usual opening reception for the faculty and students was held in the school rooms on September 22. Mr and Mrs Walter entertained the students and faculty on October 20. On October 24 the juniors and faculty were the guests of the seniors.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of the following former students.

Mildred H. Beim, '16-'17, to Vernon Warren Spickard on September 15.

Helen Fay Gates, '13-'14, to Capt. Seth Marshall Fitchet, 301st U. S. Field Artillery, on November 10.

Mr Chalmers Hadley, '05-'06, librarian of the Denver public library, to Edna Florence Hendrie, on October 29.

Isabelle L. Taylor, '16-'17, to James Herbert Hoffnagle, lieutenant of infantry, O. R. C., September 8.

#### New York public library

A recent faculty ruling provides that the preliminary work of students who lack library experience shall, beginning with the school year 1918-19, be done at New York under the direction of the Library school. Heretofore it has been customary to accept two weeks of apprentice service in a library convenient to the student's home as fulfilling this requirement in case such an arrangement was requested. The introduction of an instructional schedule for this period, however, seems to render it essential that all members of the incoming class obtain the carefully supervised preparation which it makes possible.

Recent lectures by visiting speakers include a series of six on the history of printing by Professor A. S. Root, a series of eight on historic book-binding and illustrative processes by Mrs Elizabeth Stevens Forrest, one on the work of a library organizer by Miss Mary E. Downey and one on library work with foreigners by Miss Ernestine Rose. Miss Effie L. Power, supervisor of the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, has been engaged to conduct a course of 10 lectures in children's work and literature for the regular students, and a more intensive course of 16 lectures in the same subject for advanced students. Miss Margaret Jackson joined the Library School faculty on November 5.

The third Chinese student to attend the school is now enrolled, this being Thomas Ching-Sen Hu, who is a graduate of Boone university, Wuchang.

ERNEST J. REECE,  
Principal.

#### Pratt institute

The annual reception given by the Graduates' association to the incoming class was held on Thursday evening, November 1, with an attendance of 88. Graduates of 23 classes were present, the classes of '97, '99, '05, '07, and '12 alone being unrepresented. After the class of '18, which attended en bloc, the class of '17 had the largest representation, there being a reunion of 11 of their members. All voted the evening a great success.

The students were invited to attend a meeting of the foreign assistants of the New York public library at the Seward Park branch on Friday evening, October 19. John Foster Carr of the Immigrant Publication Society addressed the meeting.

The class of '18 has elected the following officers: President, Miss Marian Cutter of Brooklyn; secretary, Miss Mabel B. Swerig of Madison, Wisconsin; treasurer, Miss Carolyn F. Ulrich of Brooklyn. At a meeting of the Library chapter of the Neighborhood association held on Friday afternoon, November 2, Miss Marguerite M. French of New Hartford, N. Y., was elected president. The chapter is planning to furnish periodicals for several of the boys' clubs of the Greenpoint settlement.

The class has been going through Pratt Institute in groups on successive Monday evenings. This opportunity of seeing the Institute at work has been greatly enjoyed by the students who, owing to their isolation, would otherwise have very little idea of what was going on across the street.

The first of the afternoon talks by visiting lecturers occurred on October 30. It was given by Dr A. S. Root, librarian of Oberlin college, who spoke on "The college library and the community." His second lecture, given the following week, was on "Courses in Bibliography."

Edwina F. Glenn, '16, whose father is in command of Camp Sherman at Chillicothe, Ohio, has had charge of the technical organization of the library service that the Public library at Chillicothe is carrying on for the soldiers.

Mary L. Knox, '16, has been made an assistant at the Long Island Historical Society library.

Elizabeth H. Baxter, '17, cataloger at the Public library, Waterloo, Iowa, has accepted the position of cataloger and reference assistant in the State Historical Society library at Topeka, Kansas.

Margaret J. Guerini, '17, has been made an assistant in the Williamsburgh branch of the Brooklyn public library.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### Riverside, California

The following students of the Riverside library service school have been em-

ployed or appointed to positions as indicated:

Grace A. Smith, '16, assistant, Public library, San Mateo.

Laura G. Smith, '17, librarian, Berendo Intermediate school, Los Angeles.

Rubie Ley, '15, employed at Brentano's New York. Miss Ley during the summer conducted the library at Chautauqua.

Ethel T. Collins, '16-17, is employed by the Indexers of Chicago.

Ruby May Avery, '17, is now assistant to the librarian of the Citrus experiment station of the University of California, at Riverside.

The following students have been granted vocational credentials for high school library service in California under the rules of the State board of education:

Marguerite Mogeau, '17, San Bernardino, California.

Mary Elizabeth Allen, recently graduated from the University of California and now at her home in Pasadena.

Sallie Catland, librarian of the Santa Ana high school and junior college, now on leave of absence will make a study of county libraries in California.

Helena Curtiss will return to Riverside November 12, to finish her work this year in the school.

Mrs Callie E. Boyle of Chico has returned to finish her work at the library service school.

Beatrice McLean is now employed by the E. W. Reynolds Co., Los Angeles, as file clerk and accountant.

Mignon Baker of the Girls' high school, Riverside, is president of the School Librarians association of California.

#### Simmons college

In order to promote a clearer understanding by all members of the college faculty of the separate parts of the institution and their relation to the whole, the general faculty meetings are being given to reports by the different schools and departments on their purposes, methods and results. The Library school report was presented November 6, by the director.

#### Visits

October 15. Boston Museum of fine arts. Boston public library, art department.

November 17. Worcester, Mass., libraries.

#### Lecturers

Dr Azariah Root. The American newspaper.

#### Marriages

Mildred Bouvé, '16, November 9, to Ralph Thompson Chamberlain.

Madeline Junkins, '14-15, to P. R. Page. Positions  
Helen Clark, '17, Farmington, Me., State normal school library. (Temporary).

Katherine Kilbourn, '16-17. Resigned from University of Chicago library.

Olive Bramhall, '16-17. War department, Washington, D. C.

Helen Carleton, '14. North Dakota library commission. Charge of travelling libraries.

Marjorie Flanders, '14-15. Department of Agriculture library, Manitoba, Canada.

Margaret Heimer, '16. State College, Pa., library, assistant.

Edith Phail, special '14-15. Scovill Mfg. Co., Waterbury, Conn., special library, librarian.

Katherine Warren, '14. Industrial reference library of National conference board, Boston.

Ethel Wigmore, '15-16. University of Chicago library, cataloger.

#### Syracuse university

The practice work during this year is to include a variety of experience in different types of libraries. Besides the University library and the main building of the Syracuse public library, the students are being assigned to the libraries of the Colleges of law and medicine, to various department libraries, to the branches of the Public library and to the library at Solvay, a suburb of Syracuse.

A course in the history of English literature especially adapted to the needs of library school students will be given this year by Associate-professor Cushman of the English department.

The senior class on October 8 gave a reception to the freshman class.

Sue Saltsman, '12, has resigned as librarian at Newark, N. Y., to accept a position in the Public library at Cleveland, Ohio.

Hilda Sandberg, '17, takes the place at Chatham, Va., formerly held by Mary Fox, who has joined the staff of the State University library at Morgantown, West Virginia.

Leila Dominick, '16, has charge of the children's work in the North Side branch of the Syracuse public library.

Vivien Diefenderfer, '16, who has been in the Buffalo public library, has been made librarian at Argo, Illinois.

Catherine M. Mulford, '15, has resigned from the library at Wells college,

Aurora, N. Y., and her place will be taken by Pauline Griffith, '16, who has been in the Buffalo public library.

E. E. SPERRY,

Director.

#### Western Reserve

The course is one year in length and the number of students is limited. General training is given in the elementary subjects of library economy, with public library problems especially in view. An entrance examination is required; the minimum educational preparation is a high school course or the equivalent.

The campaign for the Camp Libraries fund has enlisted the hearty cooperation of the faculty and students, and the school contributed \$50 as well as active work in soliciting funds in conjunction with the Cleveland War Library committee. Class work was suspended for the afternoons of one week to enable the students to help in the Cleveland public library during the campaign.

The school has been favored during the month by having as lecturers Mr R. R. Bowker, editor of the *Library Journal*, who delighted the students with his own personal knowledge of the "Early history of the A. L. A."; and Miss Annie Carroll Moore, supervisor of work with children, New York public library, who spoke on the "Patriotism" list prepared under her supervision for the New York public library and also a talk (with lantern slides) on the New York public library system.

The class of 1918 has organized and the student government policy has been adopted as in the previous classes. The following are the class officers: President, Joyce G. Bisbee; vice-president, Alma Schultz; secretary-treasurer, Emily R. Cornell. Three members of the class of 1917 brought greetings and helped in the organization. A Committee on Red Cross work is a part of the class organization.

The annual reception in honor of the new class was given by the faculty on the evening of November 7, with a large attendance of local alumnae and friends of the school.

Recent placements of graduates are as follows:

Nora M. Clark, '16, librarian, Brooklyn branch, Public library, Cleveland.

Margaret Cleaveland, '17, librarian, South High School branch, Public library, Cleveland.

Mabel Newhard, '06, librarian, Armour & Co., Chicago.

Helen M. Ranson, '15, assistant, Miami University library, Oxford, O.

Hortense W. Stetler, '16, assistant, Public library, Minneapolis.

Mildred L. Thomas, '17, assistant, Woodland branch, Public library, Cleveland.

Helen M. Watterson, '10, librarian, East High School branch, Public library, Cleveland.

Cards have been received at the school announcing the marriages of:

Mabel Delle Jones, '08, to Raymond O'Brien, Atlanta, Ga.

Mary S. Wallis, '06, to William G. MacTarnaghan, New York City.

Alice S. Tyler,  
Director.

#### University of Wisconsin

Morning class appointments with definite time for afternoon technical practice work have followed the customary schedule of the school, with such variations as experience and changing times dictate. With new members coming to the faculty some of the courses have been reorganized, while others have met the changes of new text books. Collateral reading and problem work are features in connection with many of the courses, and class discussions of reading and problems are proving unusually spirited this year.

The course in current events has awakened much enthusiasm. The course was opened by Prof. W. G. Bleyer, head of the department of Journalism, with a discussion of how to read a daily paper, how to follow the news from day to day, and what papers to read. On succeeding weeks, the new revenue bill, the selective draft, New York city elections, and political parties in Europe have been discussed by Mr C. B. Lester of the library school faculty, Dr E. A. Fitzpatrick in charge of the draft for Wisconsin, Prof Ford H. MacGregor and G. H. Stewart of the department of political science. There is a lively interest in the daily papers and an intelligent discussion of the news as an outgrowth of these lectures.

Miss Jessie B. Rittenhouse was a welcome guest of the school, Saturday morning, November 3. She lectured on War poetry, and later, while coffee was served, conducted a very delightful informal symposium on various phases of modern poetry, telling many interesting things about the poets themselves, and repeating many of their poems to illustrate her points.

Other lectures during these opening weeks have been given by Prof E. H. Gardner of the school of commerce on Effective business letters, and Charles E. Brown, chief of the State Historical museum on Printing and labeling.

Miss Merrill, Mr Lester and Miss Hazeltine represented the school at the annual meeting of the State library association in Green Bay, and Mr Lester attended the annual meeting of the Wisconsin State teachers' association in Milwaukee. On October 27, Miss Hazeltine gave a tea in honor of Miss Welles and Miss Merrill, who joined the faculty at the beginning of the term.

Mary Emogene Hazeltine,  
Preceptor.

**Ohio**—The Ohio summer school for library students was held at the Ohio State University under the direction of the Ohio library commission for six weeks. There was an attendance of 13 students representing all kinds of libraries. In addition to the regular course of library economy, a number of prominent outside libraries spoke to the class. Outside instructors were Miss Gertrude Stiles and Miss Julia Merrill. The school was under the immediate supervision of Mr J. H. Dice, library organizer for Ohio.

Bulletin No. 14, Bureau of Education, is full of information that leads one on in the speculation of what it means. It is a graphic survey of book publication, 1890-1915. Students in library schools ought to give this pamphlet careful reading. The general accepted idea of the appeal of books is not sustained by the figures given.



## Department of School Libraries

### Three Forms of High-School Library Administration

**The high-school library under the control of the board of education and an integral part of the high school**

Here the entire expense of maintenance is borne by the board of education, while the librarian is appointed as a member of the faculty and usually has many of the powers of a head of department. With a high standard of qualifications for the librarian, adequate appropriations for maintenance, and close cooperation with the public library, this plan secures the fullest freedom for the development of the school library according to the needs of each high school. The problems of the school library have more in common with the college library than with the public library, and this plan admits more easily of the adaptation of library methods to the needs of the school. The success of this type of library depends upon the school board's intelligent appreciation of the function of the high-school library, proper care in selecting the librarian, and freedom given to the librarian to develop the library.

Examples of this type of library are: The 23 high-school libraries in New York city; high-school libraries of Albany, N. Y.; Hartford, Conn.; William Penn high school, Philadelphia; Spokane, Wash.; Detroit and Grand Rapids, Mich.; Los Angeles, Cal.; Newark and East Orange, N. J.; Newton technical high school, Newtonville, Mass.; Hughes high school, Cincinnati, Ohio; high schools of Oakland, Cal.

**The high-school library under joint control of the board of education and the public library, or as a branch of the public library.**

In many cities and towns where otherwise an up-to-date high school library would be out of the question this plan has proved of great value. As a rule, the board of education and public library share the expense—room, light, heat, furniture, and equipment being furnished by the board of education, and books, periodicals, binding, and supplies furnished by the public library. The salary of the librarian may be paid jointly by the board of education and the public li-

brary, or by either board separately. Where the library is under joint control, the board of education and the public library usually set up a high standard of qualifications and salary in order to insure a librarian equal to the high-school teachers in culture and training. When it is a regular branch of a public library, the librarian is a member of the public-library staff rather than of the school faculty.

The success or failure of this plan depends so much upon the librarian of the public library and his consideration of special high-school needs that local conditions must always determine its feasibility. Where conditions are favorable, it means economical and efficient buying of books and supplies, rebinding, etc. The librarian of the public library often has a larger vision of the possibilities of the high-school library than the school authorities and can better select the right librarian. Its disadvantages are that its administration must conform to that of other branches and there is slight opportunity to make the changes that school work often demands. Present public-library salaries make it difficult to secure the proper college men and women. If the general public are admitted to the high-school branch, there is a distinct loss to the students unless a reading room is provided that is selective in its book collection and does not include the "best seller" and the mediocre. If a librarian must divide her time between the students and the general public, the students are likely to have less of that personal guidance which the high-school librarian ought to give.

Examples of successful high-school branches of public libraries are found in Cleveland, Ohio; Passaic, N. J.; Kansas City, Mo.; Somerville, Mass.; Madison, Wis.; Portland, Ore.; Tacoma, Wash.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Chicago, Ill.

**The high-school library with a trained librarian giving part-time service**

For the small high school where neither of the above plans is possible the following suggestions are made:

That the teacher or librarian in charge of the school library take a six-weeks' course in library methods. Such courses are given in the summer in almost every state under the auspices of the state library commission, the state library, state university, or the state normal schools. In Minnesota a six-weeks' course in library methods is required for all school librarians. Teachers who have charge of school libraries in that state must have this training and also be given a light teaching schedule to insure time for proper care of the library.

In states where many of the high-school teachers are normal-school graduates those who have had required courses in library methods in a normal school should be thoroughly competent to conduct the small high-school library along modern lines. This has meant better administration of high-school libraries in Kansas. Many normal schools in addition to their regular courses give summer training to teachers in simple library methods. This is done in Michigan. The small rural high school should be able to secure advice at any time from the normal-school librarian.

For the small town which can not afford a trained librarian in its public library, the board of education and the public library may combine, and a librarian be appointed to serve the school library a part of the school day and the public library certain hours of the afternoon and evening. An example of this plan is to be found in the Deerfield-Shields high school, Highland Park, Ill.

#### The librarian

A librarian with knowledge of modern library methods is essential in every high-school library, and present conditions make that possible even in many small high schools. Books must be carefully selected, grouped according to a standard method of classification, and together with all other library material, pictures, clippings, pamphlets, lantern slides, etc., must be so catalogued, indexed, or listed as to be available at short notice. Proper means of caring for pamphlets and clippings will make available for English

work some up-to-date material that would otherwise be lost.

Whenever possible, the standard for the high-school librarian should be fully as high as that for teachers of English. There should be the same educational qualifications—college graduation, etc.—and the librarian should bring to the work the professional training guaranteed by a full course of one or two years in an approved library school. This is the highest type of training for librarianship, and graduation from such a school usually insures breadth of culture, efficiency, and initiative gained by the comparative study of library methods in schools, colleges, and other institutions besides the public library. This comparative study and the high standard of entrance requirements for these library schools make their graduates especially fitted for the administration of high-school libraries, and distinguish the training from that given in the apprentice course, or training class, of a public library. Such public-library courses train primarily in the methods of a single library and for a lower grade of service—their entrance requirements are much lower than a regular library school.

The successful high-school librarian must be much more than a trained cataloger and organizer. If she is only this the school library will be a failure. The personality of the librarian is of the utmost importance. Enthusiasm, personal magnetism, broad sympathies, power to teach and inspire are as essential in the good school librarian as in the good teacher. She must be one who understands boys and girls of high-school age—this is quite a different problem from the work in the children's libraries. Librarians who have merely done technical work, such as cataloging, as a rule are not fitted to undertake high-school work. There must be maturity, breadth of culture, and wide interests to enable the librarian to enter intelligently into the work of all departments and cooperate with teachers of all subjects.

*From Report of the committee on the library and its equipment, U. S. Bureau of Education Bulletin, No. 2, 1917.*

### News From the Field East

Word has been received of the marriage of Elizabeth C. Stevens, Pratt '98, to William B. Forrest. Mr and Mrs Forrest are living in Pittsfield, Mass.

Edna M. Hull, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, resigned as head cataloger at the University of Washington library and has succeeded Ruth L. Brown, B. L. S., '16, as reference librarian, Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn.

Ruth L. Brown, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, has resigned as reference librarian of the Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn., to succeed Rebecca W. Wright, B. L. S., '08, as secretary of the Vermont free public library commission.

The Converse Memorial library, Amherst college, was dedicated November 8. The building, which cost \$250,000, is the gift of E. C. Converse of New York city in memory of his brother, J. B. Converse, who was graduated from Amherst in 1867.

### Central Atlantic

Catherine S. Tracey, Pratt, '05, has joined the staff of the H. W. Wilson Company as editor of the *Cumulative Book Index*.

Bessie H. Dexter, Wisconsin '11, has been appointed children's librarian, East Liberty branch, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Kathryn Sharp, Wisconsin '14, has accepted the position of first assistant in the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Mrs Jessamine Swartwout Greenway, N. Y. State, '08-'09, has joined the indexing force in the office of the Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D. C.

Louise Elizabeth Jones, New York public library, '14-'16, has been made librarian of the Rivington Street branch of the New York public library.

Mary Frank, Pratt, '08, librarian of the Rivington Street branch, has been appointed superintendent of traveling libraries in the New York public library.

Katharine Kendig, New York public library, '16-'17, has left the Rivington Street branch of the New York public library to accept a position in the East Orange (N. J.) public library.

Mary Casamajor, N. Y. State, '01, became librarian of the Bedford branch of the Brooklyn public library, September 1. Since 1906 she has been librarian in charge of the Prospect branch.

Guido Mariotti, N. Y. State, '16-'17, who has been cataloging temporarily in the main library of the U. S. department of agriculture, has been transferred to the library of the Bureau of biology.

Ellen F. Chamberlayne, N. Y. State, '09-'10, has left the Public library of Binghamton, N. Y., where she has been assistant librarian since 1912, to become librarian of the high school in the same city.

Winnifred Wennerstrum, N. Y. State, '16-'17, resigned as assistant in the New York state library to become reference librarian of the Public library, Trenton, N. J.

Isabel L. Towner, N. Y. State, '07-'08, resigned as head cataloger of the U. S. bureau of education to become librarian of the Federal board for vocational education, Washington, D. C.

Perrie Jones, New York public library, '15-'16, has given up her appointment in the technology division of the New York public library to undertake work in Paris for the Y. W. C. A. Miss Jones sailed about November 1.

Mrs Helen Wark Grannis, New York public library, '16-'17, has resigned her position at the Fort Washington branch of the New York public library to become a statistical file-clerk for the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

Margaret A. McVety, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '09, resigned as chief of the Lending department of the Newark, N. J., Free public library to succeed Elisa M. Willard, '95, as reference librarian, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Dorothy Watson, New York public library, '16-'17, has resigned her place in the technology division of the New York public library and has joined the staff of the library of the United Engineering Societies, New York City.

The annual report from the Public library, Pottsville, Pennsylvania, records number of books, on the shelves, 11,453; circulation, 88,058; population, 23,000; per capita circulation, 3.9; registered borrowers, 6,914; receipts, \$4,568; expenditures, \$5,397.

Lucy Condell, Drexel, '04, who spent the school year 1015-16 in advanced work at the Library school of the New York public library, has left the Rivington Street branch of the New York public library to take a position in the General Traffic Department of the Erie Railroad, New York City.

Elsie May Cornew, Drexel, '09, who took advanced work at the Library school of the New York public library in 1914-15, has given up her position as first assistant at the Tremont branch of the New York public library to join the staff of the Newark free public library.

The print division of the New York public library has arranged an exhibition of about 170 etchings by Rembrandt selected from the J. P. Morgan collection. The exhibition, which is arranged chronologically, is to be changed afterwards to the usual arrangement by subject. The chronological arrangement serves best for a study of the artist's development. The exhibition will be on view until the end of March.

Additional exhibits now on at the library are recent additions. Stuart Gallery—J. Carroll Beckwith memorial exhibition; Mezzotints from the J. L. Cadwalader collection—exhibits illustrating the "Making of prints." Engravings after paintings of the "Hudson River School" exhibited on occasion of the opening of the Catskill aqueduct are also displayed.

The municipal and business branch of the Public library, Rochester, New York, was opened October 1. It is the aim of

this branch to provide a collection of material helpful to all classes of business. It includes political science, political economy, banks, finance, production, business law, commerce, transportation, engineering, business methods, advertising. On the municipal side it deals with organization, municipal finance, public utilities, sanitation and public health, public improvement, education and social welfare.

#### Central

Ellen Glasgow, St. Louis, '13, has joined the staff of the Mercantile library of St. Louis.

Mabel Smith, Wisconsin '11, has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Salem, Oregon, to accept a position in the Detroit public library.

The annual report of the Public library, Wausau, Wisconsin, records circulation 78,837v, number of books on the shelves 11,994.

The Board of trustees of the Public library, Evanston, Ill., has taken membership in the Illinois library association for the regular members of the library staff.

Winifred B. Merrill, Wisconsin legislative course '09, won the appointment of Municipal reference librarian in Milwaukee through Civil Service examination.

Miss Nouvart Tash Jian, for five years a member of the staff of the Public library of St. Paul, has been granted leave of absence for war service in Washington.

Amy Allen, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '12, joined the staff of the Cincinnati public library in September as cataloger and reference assistant.

Hilda M. Lancefield, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '17, began work October 1 as assistant reference librarian, Kansas state agricultural college, Manhattan.

Katherine B. Harrison, St. Louis, '16, recently assistant in the St. Louis public library, has become children's librarian in the Public library, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Amy Winslow, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, resigned her position with the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh in September to become reference librarian at Iowa State College library, Ames.

Charles E. Graves, N. Y. State, '13, has resigned his position with the University of Illinois library to become librarian of the Minnesota historical society at St. Paul.

Gertrude May, St. Louis, '16, recently with the staff of the St. Louis public library, has become librarian of the Public library of Winchester, Illinois.

Earl H. Davis, N. Y. State, '15-'16, municipal reference librarian at the St. Louis public library, joined the medical corps for engineers of the 12th regiment, Missouri, and is now in France.

The Parlin library of Canton, Illinois, has received a gift of \$30,000 worth of Liberty Bonds as a memorial to the late W. H. Parlin, Sr., by members of his family.

Mrs Helen Clarke Mathews, Pratt, '03, formerly reference assistant in the Western Reserve Historical Society library in Cleveland, has accepted a position as cataloger in the Hispanic Society of America.

The annual report of the Public library, Galesburg, Illinois, records number of books 48,743. Circulation, 184,000. Number of borrowers, 6,481. Receipts for the year, \$12,526. Disbursements, \$10,251.

Mary B. Nethercut, Wisconsin '13, formerly librarian of Rockford college, has been re-elected to her former position, beginning her duties with the opening of the fall term.

Stewart S. Williams, Wisconsin legislative course '15, resigned his position as assistant in the library of Northwestern university and is now with the Quartermasters' corps in France.

Claire E. Shadell, Wisconsin '15, after two years of service as assistant in charge of stations in the Public library of Davenport, Iowa, has accepted the librarianship of the Public library of Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Florence E. Dunton, Wisconsin '11, has been appointed acting librarian of the Eastern Illinois state normal school at Charleston, to serve during the absence of the librarian, Miss Mary J. Booth, in France, where she has gone for war relief work.

Mrs Eugenia Marshall Rainey, Wisconsin '09, has been reappointed to a position in the St Louis public library. Mrs Rainey will continue in library work while her husband, Dr Walter Rainey is serving in a base hospital "somewhere in France."

Verne Bowles, N. Y. State, '14, who spent the past year as first assistant cataloger in the library of the University of Washington, has gone to the Kansas State normal school, Emporia, as reference librarian.

Frances A. Hannum, lately connected with the Public library of Newark, New Jersey, has been elected librarian of the Public library of Racine, Wisconsin. She succeeds Miss Mary Jane Calkins, Illinois '96, resigned.

The number of package libraries sent out from the Extension division of the University of Wisconsin for public discussion for the year ending June 30, 1917, was 7452; subjects covered 2893; communities served 627, of these 462 communities were without libraries. Over 2100 organizations used the University libraries during the year.

Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, who for the past several years has been in New York, has returned to the Middle-west and is now librarian of the Public library, Bay City, Michigan. She succeeds Mrs Parsons McDonald, who resigned her position to take up her home with her daughter, Miss Parsons, librarian of Morristown, New Jersey.

Elizabeth H. Cass (Illinois '14) for the past year librarian of the Portland Cement Association, Chicago, died October 26. Miss Cass taught in the Western Reserve library school 1914-15 and cataloged in the Commonwealth Edison Company library the winter of 1915. Mary Bostwick Day, cataloger of the



Portland Cement library, has been appointed librarian to succeed Miss Cass.

An oil portrait of Dr James Kendall Hosmer, former librarian of the Minneapolis public library, has been presented to that institution by some of his friends.

The seventeenth annual report of the Simmons library of Kenosha, Wisconsin, records a circulation of 159,053 v. This is about five books per capita. The number of registered borrowers 9561, number of books on the shelves 34,387.

The story of the Pullman library, Pullman, Illinois, covering the early history down to date, written by Bertha S. Ludlam, librarian of the Pullman public library, appeared in the *Cahmet Index*, October 12.

The annual report of the John Crerar library records the total number of visitors during the year—158,834, 5000 admissions to the shelves were issued. The total number of calls for books and pamphlets from the shelves was 584,000. There were 579 requests for loans outside the library. The total accession is 15,626 v. Number of books on the shelves 368,508. Number of notable gifts of pamphlets 16,224. The volumes received during the year 15,114. Pamphlets 10,449.

The forty-sixth annual report of the Grand Rapids public library is one of unusual interest. The relation between the library and the schools is set out at length. The problem of unused fiction is also of special interest. The cost of service is analyzed with a view to getting definite information on each part of the work. This report totals the use of the library—not only in circulation and reference, but counts readers, visitors to exhibits, attendance at story hours, and gives total of all records of service, 1,043,855. Number of volumes on shelves, 171,259.

There were five new branch libraries opened to the public in Toledo, Ohio, in October. The buildings were erected from a gift of \$125,000 of the Carnegie Corporation. Sites were provided by the city. The five buildings are distinct in

exterior architecture, each having been designed by a different local architect; but each includes the same interior features. Four of them have been named for prominent persons of Toledo, who have contributed to the book-life of the community. The Eliza Kent branch is named for the reference librarian who served most efficiently for many years and who died while in service. The Frances D. Jermain branch was named for a former librarian, who served Toledo most faithfully for nearly 40 years. The D. R. Locke branch is named for a former editor of the *Toledo Blade*, well known in post bellum days as Petroleum V. Nasby. The fourth is the Anna C. Mott branch. The fifth is called the South branch library.

The fifty-seventh annual report of the Public library of Detroit calls the successful campaign for the million dollar bond issue for the completion of the new main library building the outstanding event of the year. The approximate cost of the building will be \$1,600,000. The circulation reached 1,680,699 issues and two new branch buildings were opened, each costing \$40,000. The following quotation is from the report of the children's department:

We are doing a large work among the children of the working men. The children of the more comfortable homes in many of our districts need the same kind of care and the advantages which the public library can give. We do not reach them in large numbers. Parents are afraid of our dirty books because of contagions and sundry other more or less valid excuses and books are *bought* for these children. The book tables of such offerings in our local book stores do not warrant the idea that most of the buying is of the best sort.

#### South

Grace M. Petersen, librarian of the public library at Elyria, Ohio, during a leave of absence, will classify the library of the Flora McDonald college at Red Springs, North Carolina.

Mrs Ethel Robbins Camburn, Wisconsin '12, is serving as acting librarian of the Mississippi agricultural college, releasing the librarian, Whitman Davis, to organize the war library at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Mrs Mary Bayne of Shelbyville, and Professor Frank Hill of Franklin, have been appointed members of the Kentucky library commission to succeed Frank Kavanaugh, State librarian, and Mrs George Flournoy of Paducah.

The report of the Public library of Sedalia, Missouri, records 4376 registered borrowers, about 17½ per cent of the population, 25,000. The circulation for the year was 80,641 v. Number of books on the shelves, 18,961. A department of sheet music has been started. A display of books suitable for Christmas purchase for children was made.

The annual report of the Public library of Louisville, 1916-17, shows a total circulation of 1,153,816 v., or 4.86 v. per capita with 204,310 v. on the shelves. The circulation does not include volumes used in reference or reading rooms either at the main library or at the branches. There is more than 23 per cent of the population or 55,444 citizens using the library. There were 213 bibliographies and reading lists compiled during the year. There were 1,278 meetings held in the assembly and class rooms. The library privileges were extended to Jefferson County and 1,036 persons registered as borrowers from March 1, to August 1, 1917. There have been 10 stations opened and 29 collections placed in 14 county schools. The total income for the year was \$110,014, the current maintenance was \$94,512 with interest on mortgage, \$15,500.

#### West

Alice B. Story, Wisconsin '15, has been elected librarian of the Public library of Huron, South Dakota.

Helen E. Farr, Wisconsin '16, has been appointed librarian of the High School library, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Chalmers Hadley, librarian of Denver, was married in New York City, October 29, to Miss Edna Florence Hendrie of Denver.

Helen F. Carlton, lately connected with the Public library, Portland, Oregon, will take charge of the extension department of the North Dakota library commission.

Lavina Stewart, Wisconsin '13, has resigned the position of reference librarian in the University of North Dakota, to accept that of assistant cataloger in the University of Wyoming.

W. A. Clark, Jr., who several years ago gave \$25,000 to provide a library for the Montana penitentiary at Deer Lodge, has just given another \$1000 with which to purchase new books for that library.

The annual report of the Public library of Helena, Montana, records the receipts for the year, \$12,017, expenditures, \$8,935; number of volumes in library, 49,222; borrowers, 6,450. The use of fiction dropped three per cent., being the lowest for many years, but the circulation of all works was greater than last year.

Florence M. Fisher, graduate of the library school of the University of Wisconsin, who has had experience in the Albany Heights branch of the Brooklyn public library, was children's librarian at Eau Claire, Wis., and recently children's librarian at Council Bluffs, Iowa, is now in charge of the children's and school work of the Parmly Billings memorial library at Billings, Montana.

#### Pacific coast

Madeline R. Morgan has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Woodland, California.

Portland, Oregon, stands at the head of all the cities in its class, that of over 100,000 population, as having the lowest death rate for infants of 252 cities in the United States. According to a survey made by the New York milk committee the rate was 55-1/10 out of every 1,000 infants under one year of age. Fall River, Mass., has the distinction of having the highest infant mortality, 163-2/10 out of every 1,000 infants. A suggestive question for Women's clubs to look up, would be one relating to the cause of such a condition.

The annual report of the Public library of Los Angeles, California, records the number of books on the shelves, 309,643; number of registered

borrowers, 119,629; population, 503,812; circulation, 2,304,631v.; staff members, 154. The per cent of fiction fell from 57.4 to 54. There was a gain of 81,960v in use of non-fiction books. The work covers a territory of 50 square miles, served by the Central library, eight branches, six playground branches, 17 sub-stations and 106 deposit stations. Special additions have been made in history and genealogy for the reference room. Exhibits of the work of local artists have been given in the library and much assistance rendered to art and musical associations. There were added 1000v. in foreign languages. Each week held 27 story hours during the winter.

#### Foreign

Karen Neumann, N. Y. State, '16-'17, has been appointed assistant in the Kommunens Folkebibliotek, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Hedvig Schaanning, N. Y. State, '16-'17, has been appointed library assistant in the Statistiske bureau, Christiania, Norway.

#### Library Clerk

\$40.00 to \$60.00 a month. Minimum age, 18 years. One position in University of Illinois Library to fill now.

Examinations at various Illinois points, open to citizens of Illinois, on December 15, 1917.

For further details and application blank, send 3c in stamps to State Civil Service Commission, Springfield, Illinois.

**Wanted**—Dewey, Decimal classification, sixth edition, seven copies. Address St. Louis public library, St. Louis, Missouri.

Wanted to buy following second hand reference books:

New International Encyclopedia 2d edition, N.Y.Dodd, 1914-16. 23 v.

Warner's Library of the World's Best Literature, Ancient and Modern. N.Y.Peale, 1896-97. 31 v.

Address stating condition of books and price expected, Mrs Florence H. Davis, librarian of Bismarck City library, Bismarck, North Dakota.

**Wanted**—Situation as assistant librarian by young woman with experience in up-to-date library. Katharine Vincent, 2509 South av, Moline, Ill.

#### The Librarian in a Business House

In an article in the *Efficiency Society Journal* for August, Matthew C. Brush, president of the Boston Elevated Railway Co., says:

The staff of a company can unquestionably use a librarian as an assistant on many matters, since he has an opportunity to become familiar with the various trade magazines, and periodicals, is able to note and read articles that they have so little time to read, and can systematically call their attention to articles of special note. They can work out the routing of the various periodicals, books, etc., among their subordinates with the librarian, and should be able to assume that the newest books of value to them are brought to their attention and purchased if desirable. The staff should feel that they can always enlist the service of the librarian in any new project or new condition that confronts them, and can well afford to confide in the librarian regarding the object desired to be done, so that literature bearing on the problem may be accumulating, and be ready to use when the time comes for so doing. They should ask that the subject under discussion be looked up by the librarian, and not waste their own time looking through periodicals, indexes and books. In short, they should make a confidant of the librarian, and should feed that they are saving much of their valuable time by so doing.

*The Public*, a weekly journal of fundamental democracy founded twenty years ago by Louis F. Post, now assistant secretary of labor at Washington, announces that beginning January 1 its size will be increased one-third and the subscription price increased from \$1 to \$2 a year. *The Public* has been one of the few strong journals that have wholeheartedly supported the Government in its war policy without compromising in the slightest degree with those "enemies within," represented by social and economic injustice.

